あやかしこ
ayakashiko
3
ヒジキ
MFコミックス
アライブシリーズ

ayakashiko

ayakashika

ayakashiko

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主な登場人物紹介
CHARACTER INTRODUCTIONS

KUUKO
A PRANK-LOVING KITSUNE WHO CAN CONJURE ILLUSIONS
KII
A ZASHIKIWARASHI WHO LOVES TO EAT
MIYATSUKA MAHORO
AYAKASHI-SOU'S 16-YEAR-OLD MANAGER. SHE HAS THE ABILITY TO SEE GHOSTS AND TOOK OVER THE JOB AFTER HER GRANDMOTHER PASSED AWAY.
NENE
A NEKOMATA WHO HAS JUST BECOME AN AYAKASHI
YUKIME
A YUKIONNA WHO FEELS MOST COMFORTABLE INSIDE COLD, DARK REFRIGERATORS.

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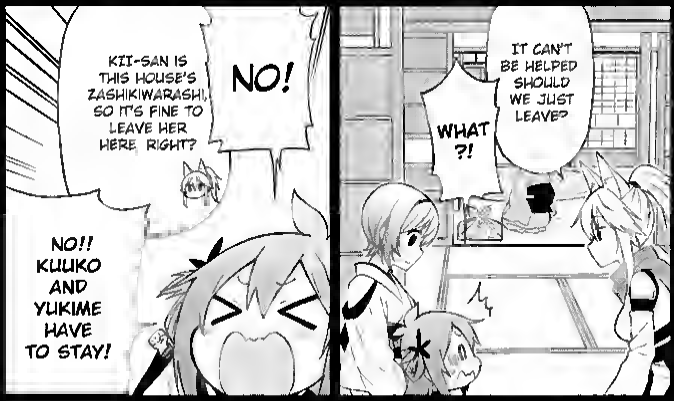
第18話

IT MIGHT BE A LITTLE TOO BIG
FOR AN ELDERLY PERSON LIVING BY HERSELF...
?
turn
turn
RATTLE
CLATTER
WH...
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

THE HOUSE GOT A NEW TENANT!
BAD LUCK.
I THOUGHT WE HAD FOUND THE PERFECT EMPTY HOUSE AS WELL...


KII-SAN IS THIS HOUSE'S ZASHIKIWARASHI, SO IT'S FINE TO LEAVE HER HERE RIGHT?
NO!
NO!! KUUKO AND YUKIME HAVE TO STAY!
WHAT?!
IT CAN'T BE HELPED SHOULD WE JUST LEAVE?

SURE... IT'LL BE TROUBLE IF KII-CHAN'S MOOD GETS ANY WORSE
ugh
OKAY. SHOULD WE JUST SEE WHAT HAPPENS BEFORE WE DECIDE ON ANY-THING?

PERFECT, I'LL USE THIS BIG ROOM AS A CALLIGRAPHY CLASSROOM.
I CAN'T WAIT.

.....
silence

FWssssHHooo
creak..
Shhh...
sshhh...
shh...
shh..

IT'S GOING TO BE LONELY FOR SOMEONE AS OLD AS ME TO BE LIVING ALONE...
CLATTER!
.....
.....
IS SOME-ONE THERE?

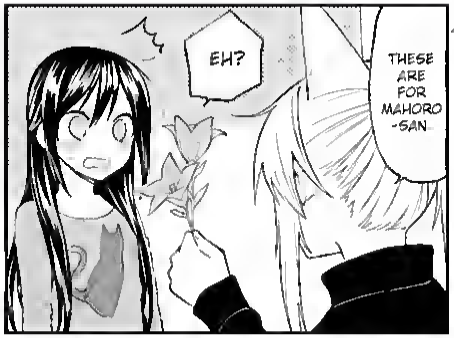
thunk
IT DEFINITELY SEEMS LIKE THERE'S SOMEONE OR SOMETHING I CAN'T SEE LIVING HERE
LOOKS LIKE I WON'T BE SO LONELY AFTER ALL
I HOPE WE CAN GET ALONG WITH EACH OTHER.

rise
chirp
chirp
chirp
OH MY...
HOW SPLENDID.

AH,
WHAT PRETTY FLOWERS
clunk

THEY WERE BLOOMING IN THE GARDEN
clink
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
Japanese cellflowers?

YOU DO SOME NICE THINGS, SOMETIMES
hehe
I THOUGHT SHE'D LIKE THEM.

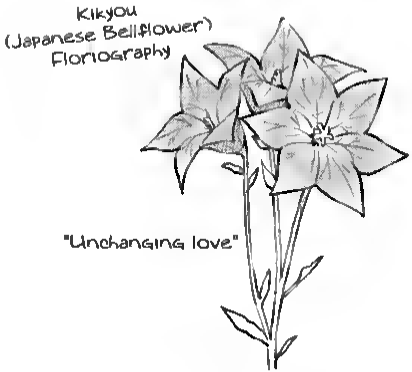

EH?
THESE ARE FOR MAHORO -SAN.

HERE

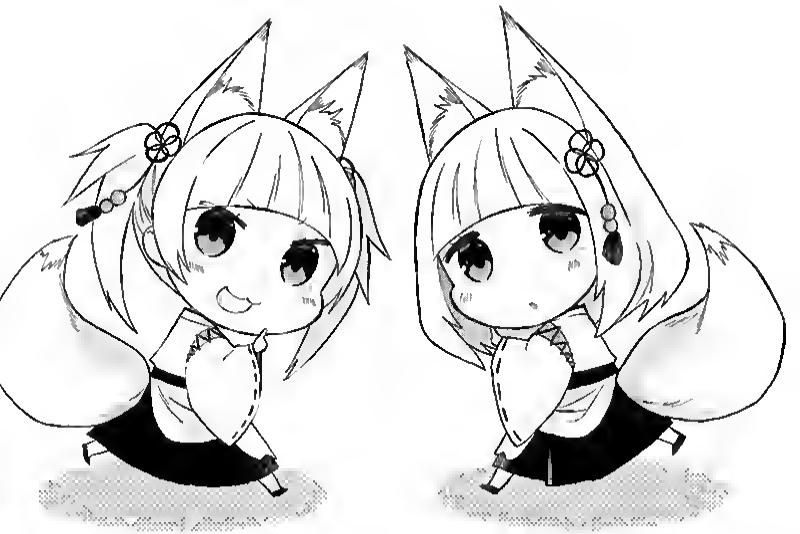
...SO SUDDENLY?
BUT..
WHY...

?
THANK YOU FOR ALWAYS GIVING US DELICIOUS FOOD.

.....
YOU'RE WELCOME...
MAHORO -SAN, CAN WE HAVE STEAK TONIGHT?
YUUKO
THAT MIGHT NOT BE A BAD IDEA ONCE IN A WHILE...
MAHORO
REALLY?! HURRAY!
YUUKO


Kikyou
(Japanese Bellflower)
Floriography
"Unchanging love"

第19话



WELL THEN, I'M OFF.
chirp
chirp

霜降り
HAVE A GOOD DAY.

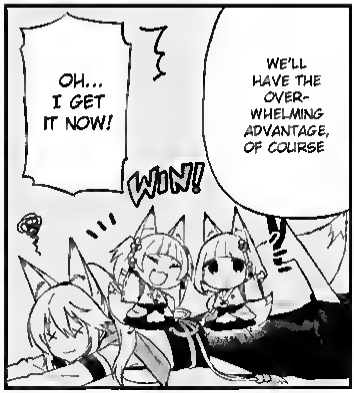
Hide…

creep...

THERE'S A GOOD REASON WHY WE'VE COME HERE ESPECIALLY, TO DEAL WITH THAT NEET KITSUNE.
HMM?

ARE YOU SURE IT'S OKAY FOR US TO SNEAK IN?
KU KUKI...
LOOKS LIKE MAHORO IS GOING SOMEWHERE
THIS IS THE NEET KITSUNE'S HEADQUARTERS, YOU KNOW!

CALM DOWN, AKI-CHAN
AGHH!
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
IF WE GET CAUGHT, TERRIBLE THINGS ARE GOING TO HAPPEN TO US AGAIN!

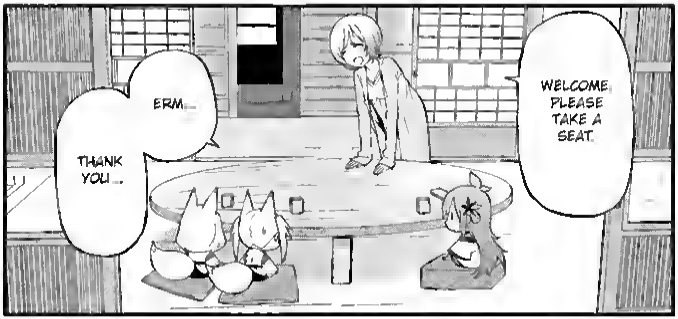

OH... I GET IT NOW!
WE'LL HAVE THE OVER-WHELMING ADVANTAGE, OF COURSE
WIN!
SO WHAT DO YOU THINK WILL HAPPEN IF WE INVADED HER INSTEAD?
UP UNTIL NOW, WE'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO FIGHT BACK AGAINST THE NEET KITSUNE WHEN SHE WOULD SUDDENLY INVADE OUR TERRITORY.
UH...

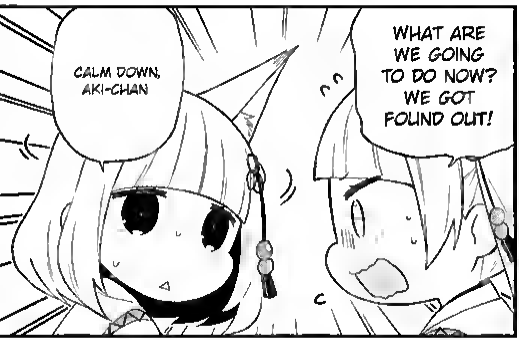
YEAH!
AND BEAT THEM BEFORE THEY BEAT US.
WE WILL GET OUR REVENGE
RUMBLE...
GODS LIKE US CANNOT AFFORD TO KEEP LOSING TO THAT NEET KITSUNE.
RUMBLE

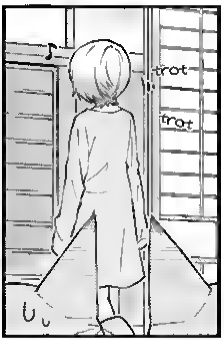
LET'S DO THIS!
TODAY, WE'LL SHOW HER THE POWER OF GOD'S HAMMER

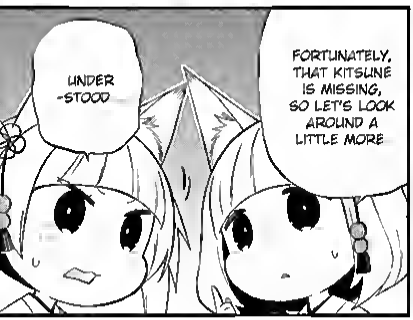
WHAT ARE THOSE USELESS FOX SISTERS DOING..?
YOU COULD HEAR THEIR WHOLE CONVERSATION FROM INSIDE, YOU KNOW...
YOU'RE ALWAYS SO LIVELY IN THESE SITUATIONS...
LET'S SEE HOW SHOULD I TURN THE TABLES?
IT'S 1,000 YEARS TOO EARLY FOR THEM TO BE OUTWITTING ME
grin
grin
wobble
wobble
MMM~
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING?
OUR USELESS INARI SISTERS ARE...
NEVERMIND, GOOD MORNING YUKIME-SAN
GOOD MORNING~

shine!
RIGHT.
THAT'S GREAT! IT'S THEIR FIRST TIME HERE! I WONDER IF THEY CAME TO PLAY.
REALLY?!
THE TRUTH IS, RIGHT NOW, AKI-SAN AND KUKI-SAN ARE LOITERING AT THE FRONT OF THE HOUSE.
OKAY~ NO PROBLEM~
YUKIME-SAN, CAN YOU GO WELCOME THEM IN?
Kin will go too!
Grin
THUD
PATTER
DON'T WORRY TOO MUCH
WHY ARE WE HIDING?!
THUD
PATTER
HUH? WAIT...
NENE -SAN, LET'S GO HIDE!


WELCOME. PLEASE TAKE A SEAT.
ERM...
THANK YOU...

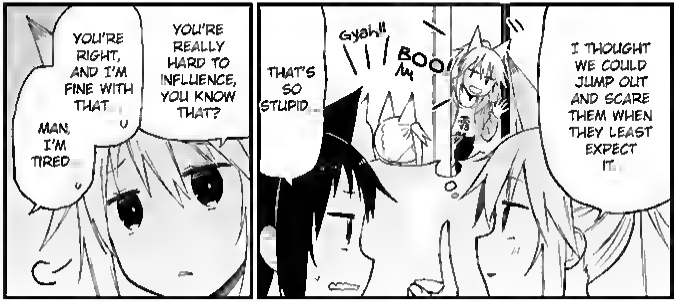

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO NOW? WE GOT FOUND OUT!
CALM DOWN, AKI-CHAN

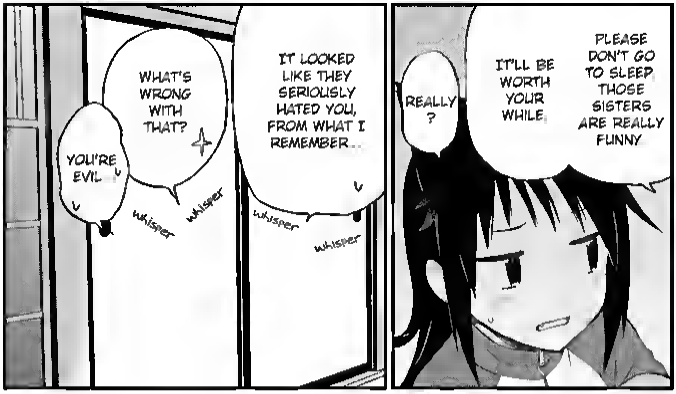

trot
trot


UNDER-STOOD
FORTUNATELY, THAT KITSUNE IS MISSING, SO LET'S LOOK AROUND A LITTLE MORE

YEAH THAT'S TRUE...
YUKIME-CHAN IS KIND
BEING FOUND OUT BY YUKIME-CHAN ISN'T A PROBLEM FOR US.

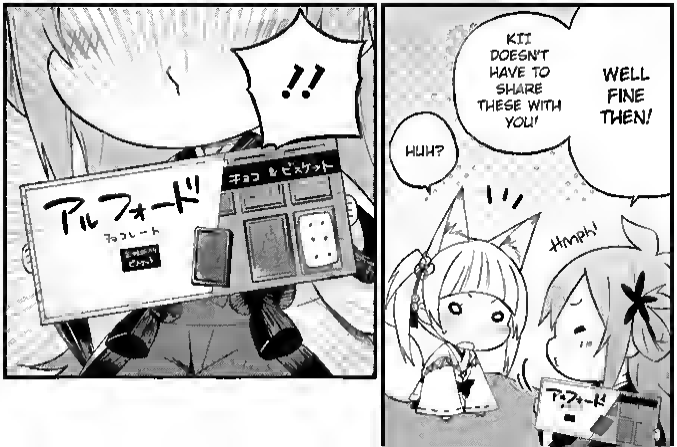
↑ Inside the closet


YOU'RE REALLY HARD TO INFLUENCE, YOU KNOW THAT?
YOU'RE RIGHT, AND I'M FINE WITH THAT.
MAN, I'M TIRED.
THAT'S SO STUPID.
Gyah!!
BOO!
I THOUGHT WE COULD JUMP OUT AND SCARE THEM WHEN THEY LEAST EXPECT IT.

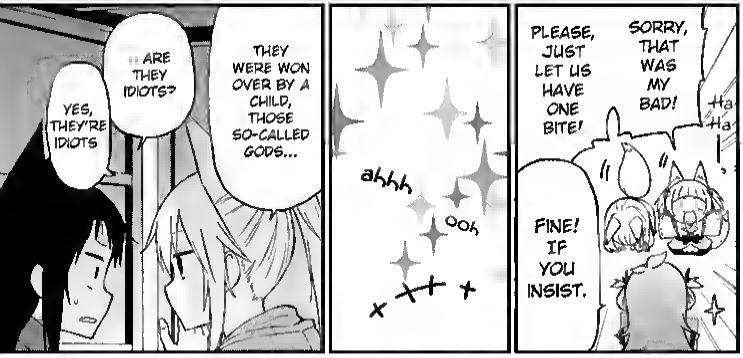


THAT'S STRANGE
SORRY GUYS~ LOOKS LIKE KUUKO-CHAN AND NENE-CHAN WANDERED OFF SOMEWHERE...
I'M GOING TO GO LOOK FOR THEM, SO PLAY WITH KII-CHAN IN THE MEANTIME
EH...
HA HA
UGH
C'MON, LET'S PLAY~! WHAT DO YOU GUYS WANNA DO?

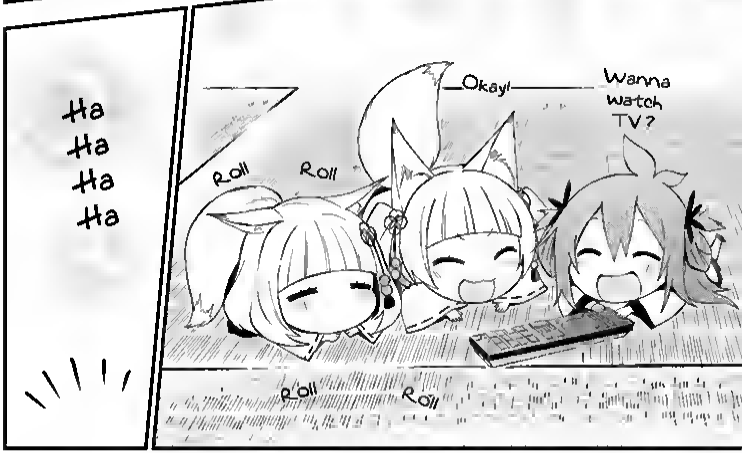
*WAKEMITAMA OR BUNREI ARE DIVIDED SPIRITS OF A SHINTO GOD THAT ARE SENT TO BE RE-ENSHRINED AT DIFFERENT LOCATIONS



WHAT?!!


ARE THEY IDIOTS?
YES, THEY'RE IDIOTS
THEY WERE WON OVER BY A CHILD, THOSE SO-CALLED GODS...
ahhh
ooh
PLEASE, JUST LET US HAVE ONE BITE!
SORRY, THAT WAS MY BAD!
Ha Ha!
FINE! IF YOU INSIST.

ISN'T IT?!
OH! I DON'T REALLY GET IT, BUT THAT'S AMAZING!
YOU CAN CALL THEM KOSPA AS WELL
THEY'RE ALFORDS!
IT'S MY FIRST TIME EATING THESE! WHAT ARE THEY CALLED?
THESE SWEETS ARE PRETTY YUMMY!
crunch

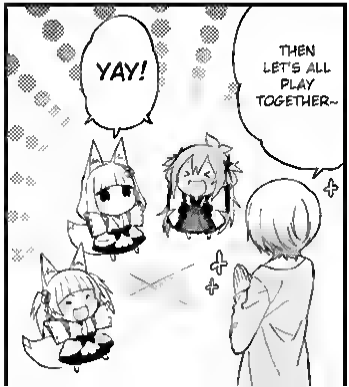

Ha
Ha
Ha
Ha
Okay!
Wanna watch TV?
Roll
Roll
Roll
Roll

relax
I DON'T EVEN CARE ABOUT REVENGE ANYMORE
phew..
YEAH
HEY, KUKI
THIS PLACE IS PERFECT WHEN THE KITSUNE ISN'T HERE
WELL SAID, AKI -CHAN
SORRY ABOUT THAT~ I WASN'T ABLE TO FIND KUUKO-CHAN AND NENE -CHAN
THAT'S STRANGE... THEY WERE HERE JUST A MOMENT AGO

WHY DON'T YOU PLAY WITH US INSTEAD?
EH?

THAT'S OKAY, YUKIME!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT KITSUNE!

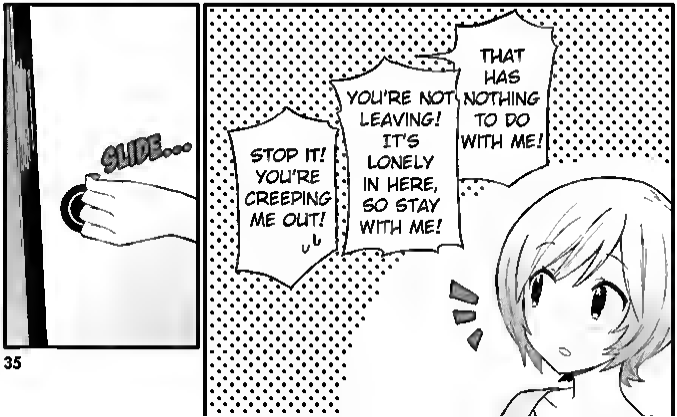
IT'S A BIT TOO CHILDISH FOR GODS LIKE US, BUT I GUESS WE CAN ACCOMPANY YOU FOR A WHILE
PLAY HOUSE, HUH?
LETS PLAY HOUSE WITH THE TOY SET THAT MAHORO BOUGHT!


YAY!
THEN LET'S ALL PLAY TOGETHER~

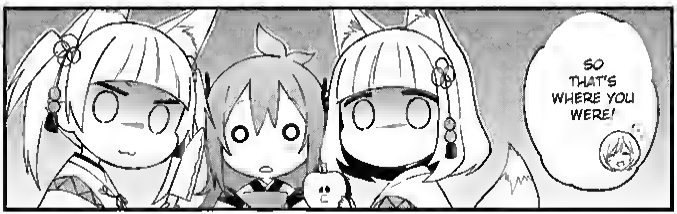
Umm

.....
Yay!
Wah
Yay!
Kya!

CAN'T YOU SEE THAT PEACEFUL ATMOSPHERE? THERE'S NO WAY I CAN DISTURB THAT
WHY?
SO...
IS IT OKAY FOR ME TO LEAVE?


SLIDE...
STOP IT! YOU'RE CREEPING ME OUT!
YOU'RE NOT LEAVING! IT'S LONELY IN HERE, SO STAY WITH ME!
THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME!

TUMBLE

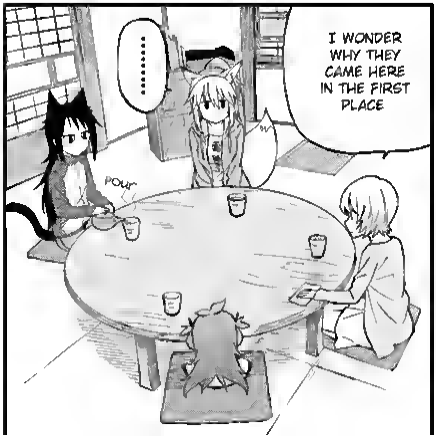

SO THAT'S WHERE YOU WERE!

WHAT WERE YOU GUYS DOING IN THERE?
AH...
?
WE WERE...
LUMM...
Don't look over here.
霜

SHE...
SHE'S HERE?!!
霜降
.....
ROAR...
AHHH!!!
霜降

DASH
Eek!

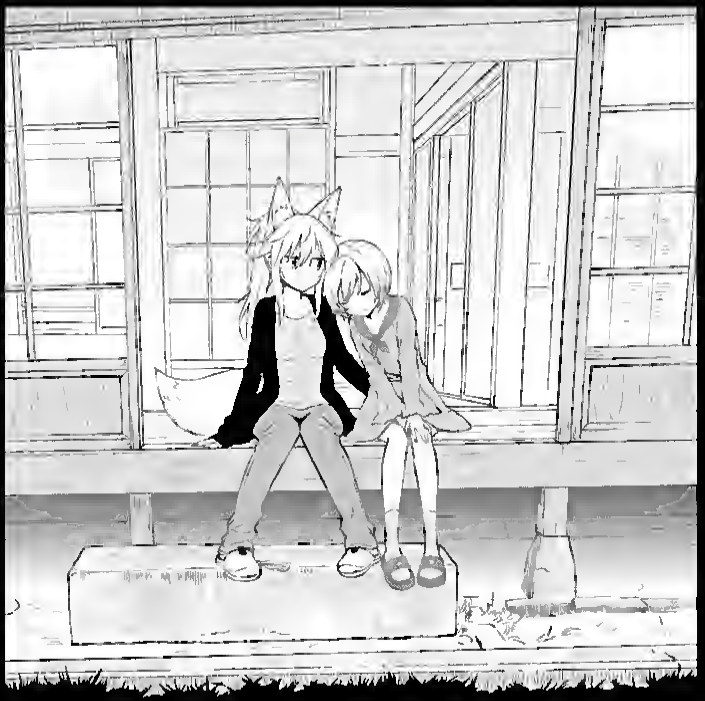
OH NO
THEY RAN AWAY
AH...


.....
I WONDER WHY THEY CAME HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE
pour

thunk

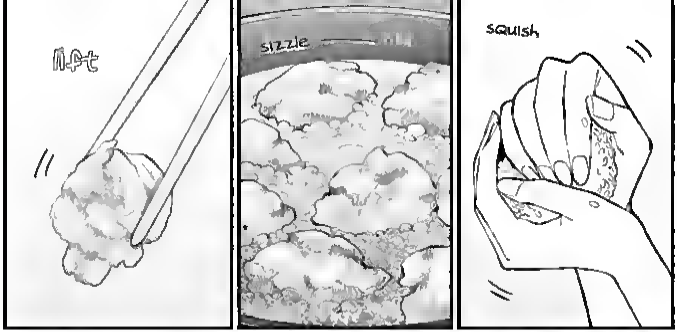
GLOOM...
.....
YOU KNOW—
IF YOU WANT TO GET ALONG WITH THEM, WHY DON'T YOU TRY BEING HONEST WITH YOURSELF?
NENE-SAN YOU'RE THE LAST PERSON I WANT TO BE HEARING THAT FROM...
What's that supposed to mean?!

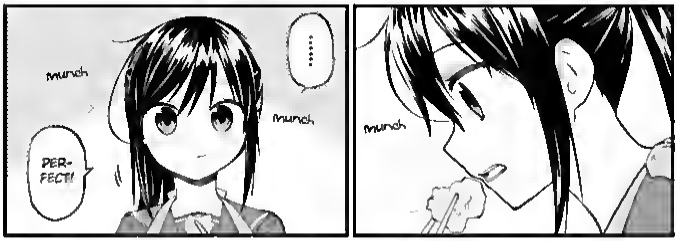
あやかしこ
ayakashiko



第20话

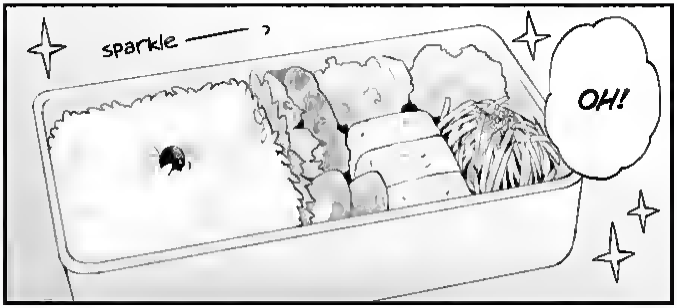
tie
chirp
chirp
chirp
tighten
ALL READY.

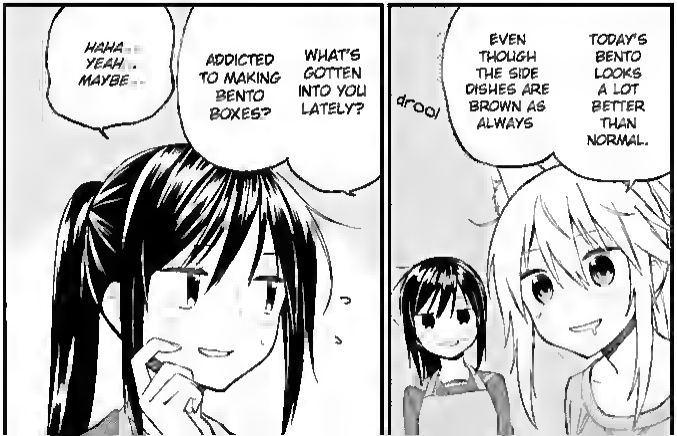

sizzle
squish


munch
munch
munch
PER-FECT!!

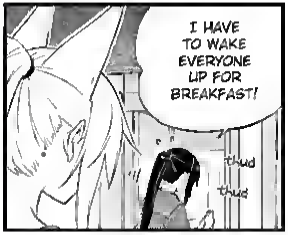
MAHORO-SA~N
JOLT!

G... GOOD MOR-NING...
GOOD MOR-NING...
YOU'VE BEEN WAKING UP EARLIER THAN USUAL LATELY.
YOU THINK SO?


sparkle ——— ?
OH!

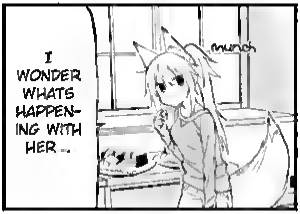

HAHA... YEAH. MAYBE...
ADDICTED TO MAKING BENTO BOXES?
WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU LATELY?
drool
EVEN THOUGH THE SIDE DISHES ARE BROWN AS ALWAYS
TODAY'S BENTO LOOKS A LOT BETTER THAN NORMAL.

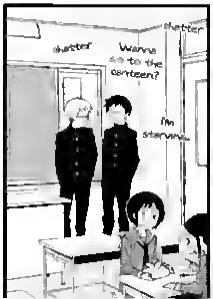
WOAH!
rustle
LOOK! THIS IS YOUR LUNCH FOR TODAY.


I HAVE TO WAKE EVERYONE UP FOR BREAKFAST!
thud thud

LOOK AT THE TIME!
Thank you!

I SEE.
AH ..

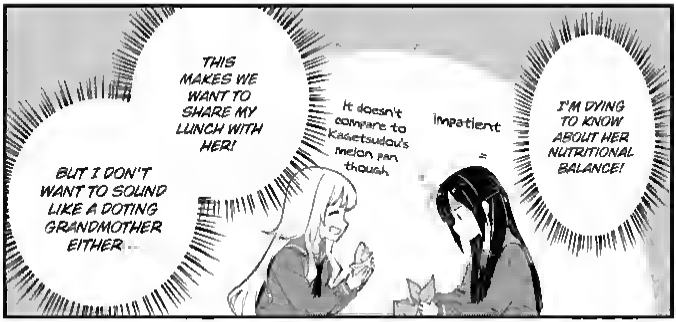

I WONDER WHATS HAPPENING WITH HER ..
munch


shatter
shatter
Wanna go to the canteen?
I'm starving

Ding
Dong

glance
slide
twitch
MAHO-RON!
I BOUGHT SOME BREAD~
LET'S HAVE LUNCH TOGE-THER~!

UHH... OKAY!
stare
G... GOOD FOR YOU.
I WAS EVEN ABLE TO BUY SOME MELON PAN!
I'M SO GLAD I SPRINTED TO THE CANTEEN BEFORE A CROWD STARTED TO FORM
rustle
SWEET BREADS AGAIN...
THAT CAN BE GOOD FOR YOUR HEALTH, EMI-CHAN!
THERE'S NO WAY
GLARE


I'M DYING TO KNOW ABOUT HER NUTRITIONAL BALANCE!
Impatient
It doesn't compare to Kagetsudou's melon pan though
THIS MAKES WE WANT TO SHARE MY LUNCH WITH HER!
BUT I DON'T WANT TO SOUND LIKE A DOTING GRANDMOTHER EITHER...

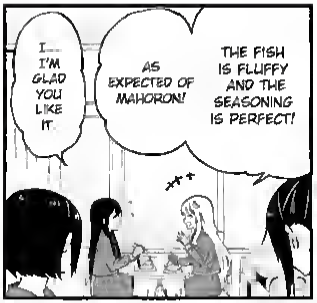
AND BESIDES, THIS IS SCHOOL.
Chatter
Chatter
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN SAY WHAT I'M THINKING WITH SO MANY EYES STARING AT ME

THIS IS SO VEXING!
Grr...
WOW, YA LUNCH IS LOOKIN' DELICIOUS AS USUAL!
HUH?

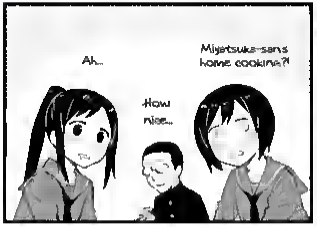
DO 'YA MAKE YOUR OWN LUNCH EVERY-DAY?
U Y... YEAH
HOW ADMI-RABLE~
I CAN'T COOK, AND MY MOM IS BUSY IN THE MORNINGS, SO ALL I GET TO EAT FOR LUNCH IS BREAD
ahahaha
OH...
IF THAT'S THE CASE..
mumble
THEN I'LL SHARE MY LUNCH WITH YOU...
HAVE SOME IF YOU LIKE...
There! I finally said it!

HUH?
ARE YA SURE?!
YEAH... I MADE TOO MUCH AND CAN'T FINISH IT ALL...
REALLY?!
I WON'T HOLD BACK THEN
ahhhh~♡
"AHHHH"?!

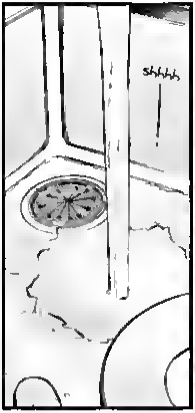
ahhhh~
wobble
wobble
GOBBLE


I... I'M GLAD YOU LIKE IT.
AS EXPECTED OF MAHORON!
THE FISH IS FLUFFY AND THE SEASONING IS PERFECT!

yummy~ ♡
mm~!


Ah...
Miyatsuka-sans home cooking?!
How nice...

I'M GOING TO HAVE TO MAKE A LOT MORE FOR TOMORROW...
hehe


shhhh

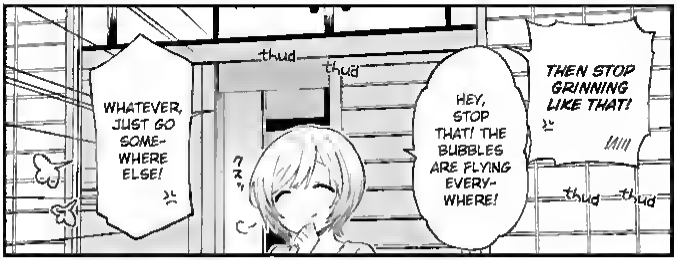
MAHORO-SA—N.
JOLT!
YOU'RE IN AN AWFULLY GOOD MOOD TODAY, AREN'T YOU?
IS... THAT SO?
OH YEAH, AND I THINK I KNOW WHY.
grin
grin
YOU'VE BEEN EATING YOUR BENTO WITH EMI-SAN, HAVEN'T YOU?
I GUESS EVEN MAHORO-SAN HAS A GIRLY SIDE
snicker
EVEN MAKING FANCY BENTO BOXES TO SHARE WITH YOUR FRIENDS
YOU'RE... YOU'RE WRONG!
.....

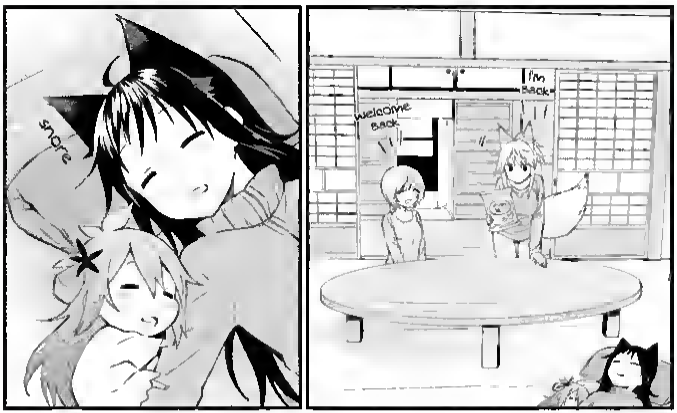
BA-DUMP
DOESN'T THAT STILL MEAN YOU'RE MAKING IT FOR HER SAKE?
REALLY?
EMI-CHAN EATS SWEET BREADS EVERYDAY AND I'M JUST WORRIED ABOUT HER NUTRITION.
Melon pan is delicious.
Blush
.....
An auntie ~
Makoto
IT SOME-WHAT FEELS LIKE YOU'RE AN AUNTIE WORKING IN A CAFETERIA THOUGH.
NO WAY~ YOU'RE FINALLY DOING SOMETHING NORMAL HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS WOULD DO.
Kuuko
YEAH.. SO WHAT..?
It's weird?
Makoto

pat
GOOD FOR YOU, GOOD FOR YOU.

rub
rub

JEEZ, WHAT'RE YOU UP TO?! ARE YOU TRYING TO MAKE FUN OF ME?!
NO, NOTHING LIKE THAT~
grin
grin


THEN STOP GRINNING LIKE THAT!
HEY, STOP THAT! THE BUBBLES ARE FLYING EVERY-WHERE!
WHATEVER, JUST GO SOME-WHERE ELSE!
thud
thud
thud
thud


snore
I'm Back~
welcome back

ahh
IT'S SOMETHING WE SHOULD BE GLAD ABOUT
SEEMS SO.
LOOKS LIKE MAHORO-CHAN HAS CHANGED A LITTLE AFTER BECOMING FRIENDS WITH EMI-CHAN.
HUH?
IS THAT IT?
HMM...
I WONDER IF YOU'RE NOT FEELING JUST A TAD BIT LONESOME.

...THIS IS PROBABLY WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO BE A PARENT.
PERHAPS.
hehe

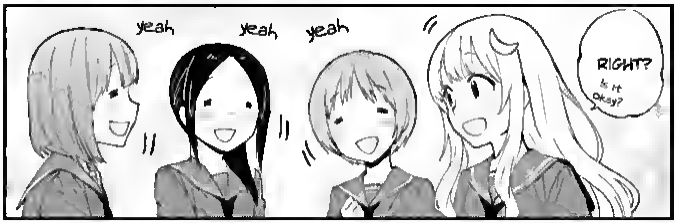
.....
I WONDER IF I PACKED TOO MUCH..
sparkle
HEY...
WOULD YOU LIKE TO EAT LUNCH TOGETHER?
HEY, WAIT UP!
HMM ~?
BUT EMI-CHAN EATS A LOT MORE THAN YOU WOULD EXPECT. SHE'LL PROBABLY FINISH IT ALL
HUH?

AH...
FOR SURE! LET'S EAT TOGETHER!
YAY~!
THAT'S RIGHT
IT CAN'T BE HELPED... EVEN EMI-CHAN WOULD PREFER TO EAT WITH EVERYONE ELSE RATHER THAN EAT WITH A GLOOMY PERSON LIKE ME..
I'M ALREADY USED TO IT, SO I'LL BE FINE EATING BY MYSELF AGAIN...
BUT STILL

GLOOM
IT'LL BE A WASTE IF I CAN'T FINISH ALL THIS FOOD...
MAHO-RON?
EH?
Earth to Mahoron!
WHAT'RE 'YA DOIN?
TAKE A SEAT OVER HERE!
WHAT?

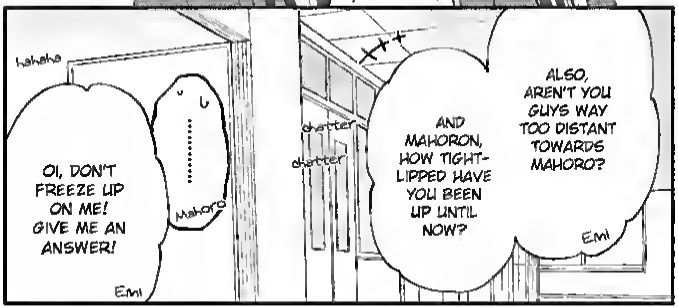
ARE YOU SURE?
WHY NOT?
?

ME TOO?!


yeah
yeah
yeah
RIGHT?
Is it okay?

SEE?
COME OVER!

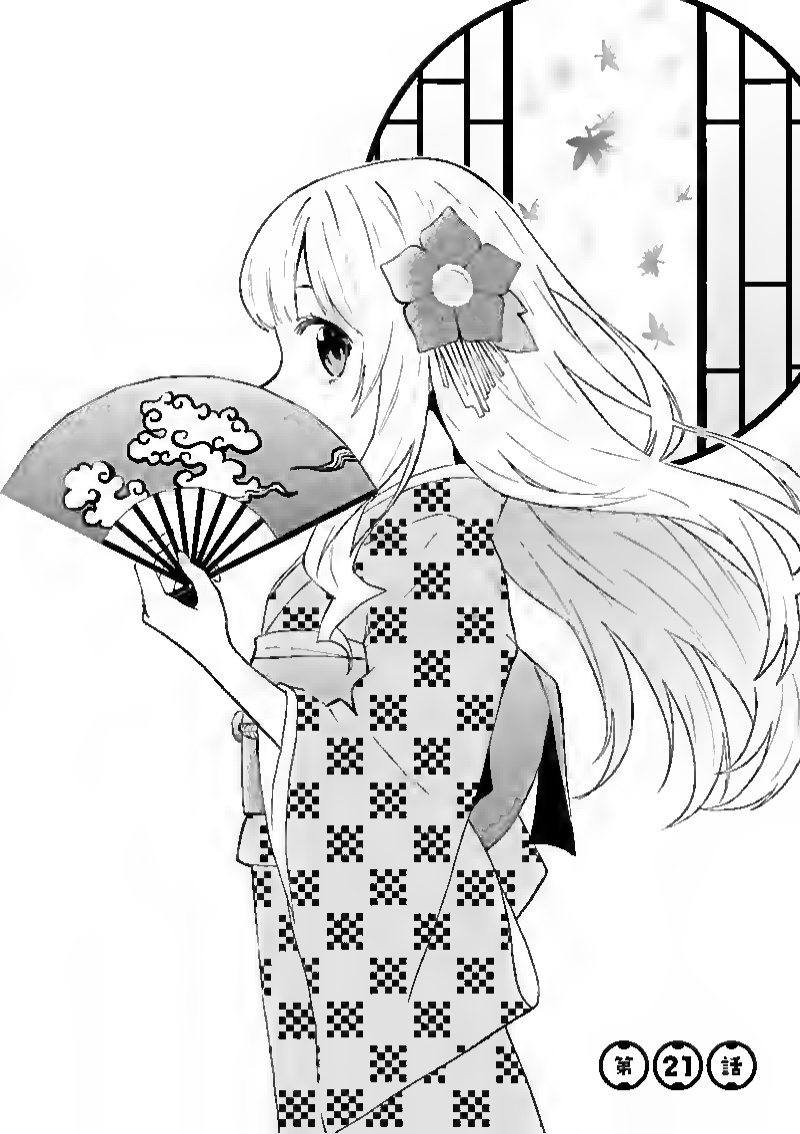
.....!


hahaha
OI, DON'T FREEZE UP ON ME! GIVE ME AN ANSWER!
Emi
.....
Mahoro
chatter
chatter
AND MAHORON, HOW TIGHT-LIPPED HAVE YOU BEEN UP UNTIL NOW?
ALSO, AREN'T YOU GUYS WAY TOO DISTANT TOWARDS MAHORO?
Emi

LOOKS LIKE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE SHE'S FEEDING HAS INCREASED
shine
MAHORO-CHAN'S BENTO BOX HAS EVOLVED INTO A MULTI-TIERED BENTO BOX?!

Huh?
Aren't you
going to bring
this to school?
It turns out
that I didn't
need to bring
that much after all
You guys can eat
it together
then

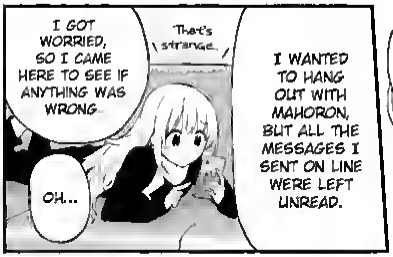
HMM.
NO RESPONSE, HUH..
HMM?
WELL THAT'S FINE! I WAS THINKING ABOUT CHECKING UP ON HER ANYWAYS
tap



第21話

whoosh
...
THE WIND IS GETTING COLD...
HAAHH...
chirp
IF YOU NOTICE IT, THAT MEANS WINTER IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER.
THAT'S BECAUSE AUTUMN IS TOO SHORT...
EH?
...
ANYONE HOME~?

WHAT'S GOING ON? A RANDOM VISIT ON YOUR DAY OFF?
WELL, UH

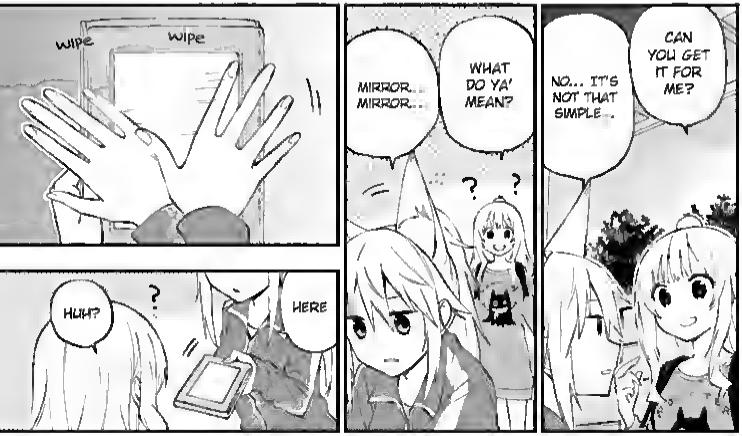

I WANTED TO HANG OUT WITH MAHORON, BUT ALL THE MESSAGES I SENT ON LINE WERE LEFT UNREAD.
That's strange...
I GOT WORRIED, SO I CAME HERE TO SEE IF ANYTHING WAS WRONG
OH...

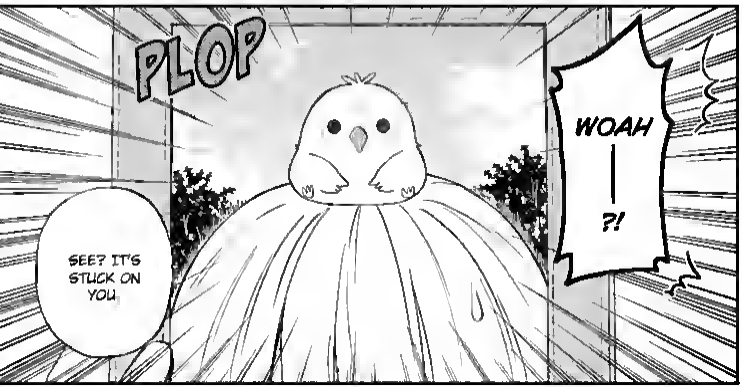
THAT'S BECAUSE MAHORO-SAN IS THE TYPE TO LEAVE HER SMARTPHONE UNATTENDED..
She has the heart of a grandmother
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS..

OH, IT'S EMI-SAN!
HOW'S IT GOING~?
MONSTER

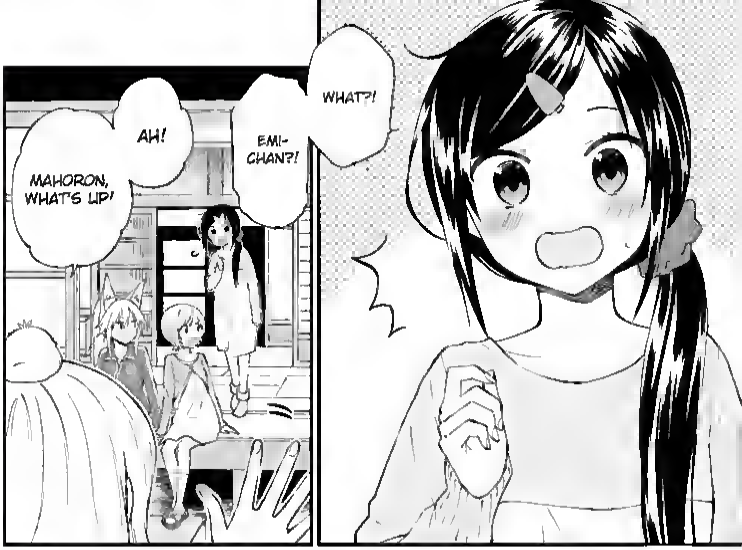
EMI-SAN, THERE SEEMS TO BE SOMETHING STUCK ON YOU
WHAT IS IT? SOME RUBBISH?

HMM?

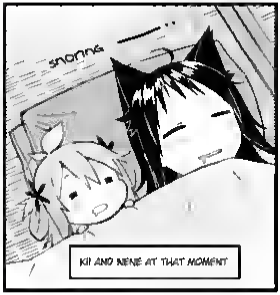

wipe
wipe
HUH?
HERE
MIRROR... MIRROR...
WHAT DO YA' MEAN?
NO... IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE...
CAN YOU GET IT FOR ME?


PLOP
SEE? IT'S STUCK ON YOU.
WOAH—?!

I KNEW YOU'D SAY THAT.
AND IT'S SUPER CUTE~!
IT'S A BIRD!


MAHORON, WHAT'S UP!
AH!
EMI-CHAN?!
WHAT?!

THAT'S COMPLETELY FINE. .
SORRY FOR COMING UNANNOUNCED ~

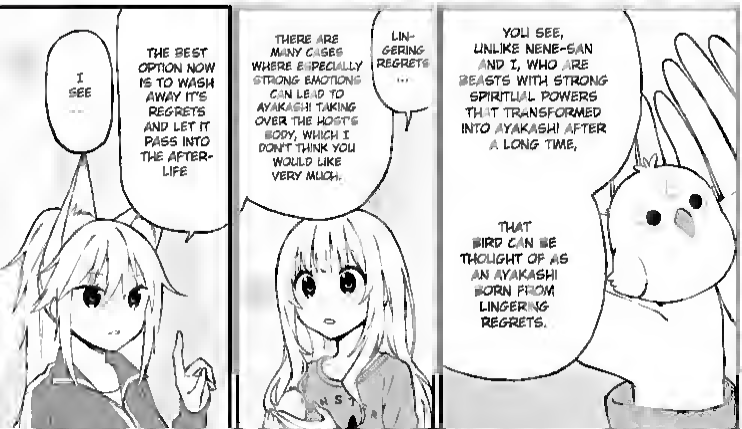

snoring
KII AND NENE AT THAT MOMENT

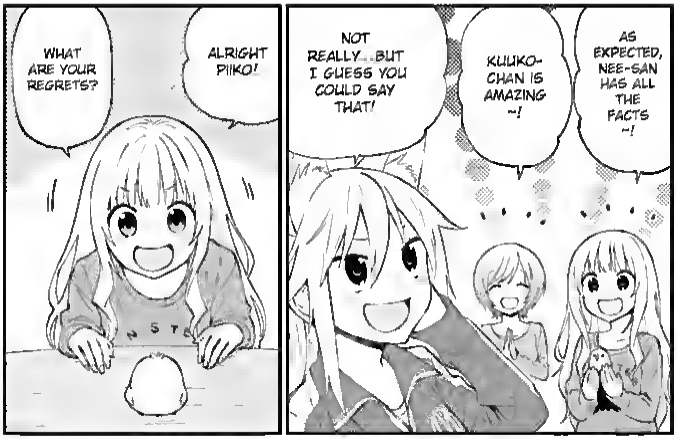
tweet
THAT THING ON TOP OF YOUR HEAD... WHAT IS IT?

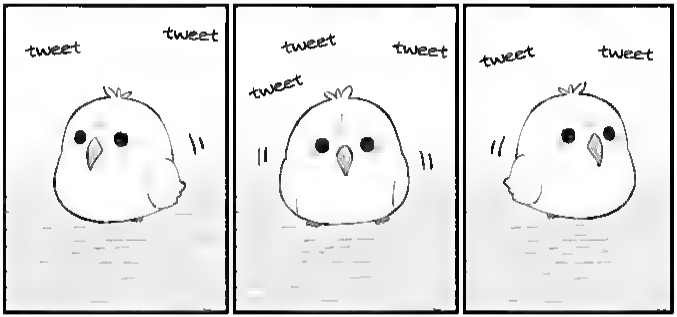
I FELT SORRY FOR IT AND ENDED UP BURYING IT.
ON THE WAY HERE, I FOUND A DEAD BIRD

I SEE ..
AND IT'S ON A DAY WHERE I FORGOT TO WEAR MY AMULET « HAIRPIN
THAT'S PROBABLY WHY IT'S HAUNTING ME-

YOU SHOULD, BECAUSE THAT'S NOT REALLY A GOOD THING.
Shine
THIS LITTLE ONE IS REALLY CUTE, SO I DON'T REALLY MIND!


I SEE ...
THE BEST OPTION NOW IS TO WASH AWAY IT'S REGRETS AND LET IT PASS INTO THE AFTER-LIFE
THERE ARE MANY CASES WHERE ESPECIALLY STRONG EMOTIONS CAN LEAD TO AYAKASHI TAKING OVER THE HOST'S BODY, WHICH I DON'T THINK YOU WOULD LIKE VERY MUCH.
LIN-GERING REGRETS ...
YOU SEE, UNLIKE NENE-SAN AND I, WHO ARE BEASTS WITH STRONG SPIRITUAL POWERS THAT TRANSFORMED INTO AYAKASHI AFTER A LONG TIME,
THAT BIRD CAN BE THOUGHT OF AS AN AYAKASHI BORN FROM LINGERING REGRETS.


WHAT ARE YOUR REGRETS?
ALRIGHT PIIKO!
NOT REALLY...BUT I GUESS YOU COULD SAY THAT!
KUUKO-CHAN IS AMAZING ~!
AS EXPECTED, NEE-SAN HAS ALL THE FACTS ~!


tweet
tweet
tweet
tweet
tweet
tweet
tweet
tweet

...OH
cute

COULD THIS BE AN AYA-KASHI THAT CAN'T TALK?!
LOOKS LIKE IT.
IT WAS STILL A BABY WHEN IT DIED, SO THAT'S PROBABLY THE REASON
NO... WHAT DO WE DO...?
HMM...
IF YOU LEND IT YOUR BODY, IT MIGHT BE ABLE TO SPEAK!
OH, THAT'S SPIRIT CHAN-NELING
I GOT IT! MAHORO-SAN!
EH?
YEAH...
I'M NOT VERY GOOD AT IT...
AND IT MAKES ME FEEL SICK..
tweet
shuffle

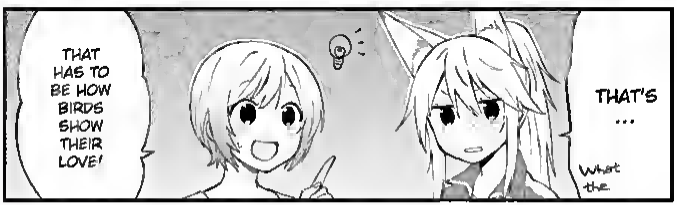
so cute.
BUT... IF IT'S FOR THIS LITTLE CUTIE, I'LL DO IT.
THAT'S MY MA-HORON!
COME HERE
reach
prick
WOAH ..
SUUUU!

Tweet!
WHAT?
flap
flap
flap
Tweet tweet tweet!
OH DEAR... IT TURNED OUT LIKE THIS...
THIS IS BAD, NEE-SAN!
MAHO-RON'S ENTIRE CHARACTER IS COLLAPS-ING!
OH?
clasp
BUT NOW YOU CAN EASILY UNDERSTAND HER INTENTIONS THROUGH HER ACTIONS AND FACIAL EXPRES-SIONS!
LOOK!
EVEN IF YOU SAY THAT...

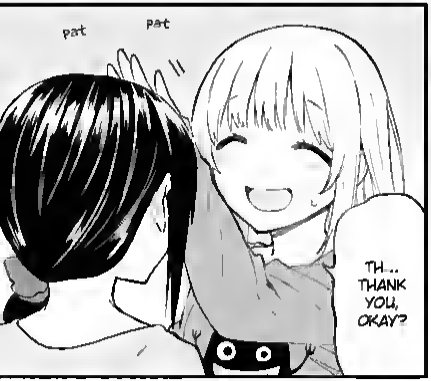
!?
nibble

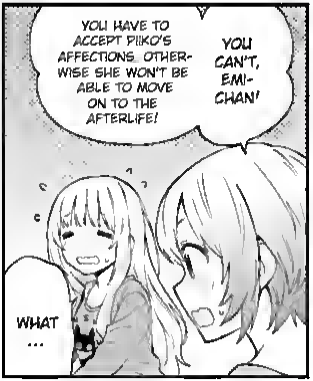
WHAT'S WRONG, MAHO-RO?
I MEAN PIIKO?!
nibble
nibble

nibble
nibble
shake
W... WHAT'S GOING ON?!


THAT HAS TO BE HOW BIRDS SHOW THEIR LOVE!
THAT'S ...
What the

EVEN SO, THIS IS BAD IN SO MANY WAYS! WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING!
PIIKO IS THANKING YOU FOR HOLDING A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR HER!
I GET IT NOW!

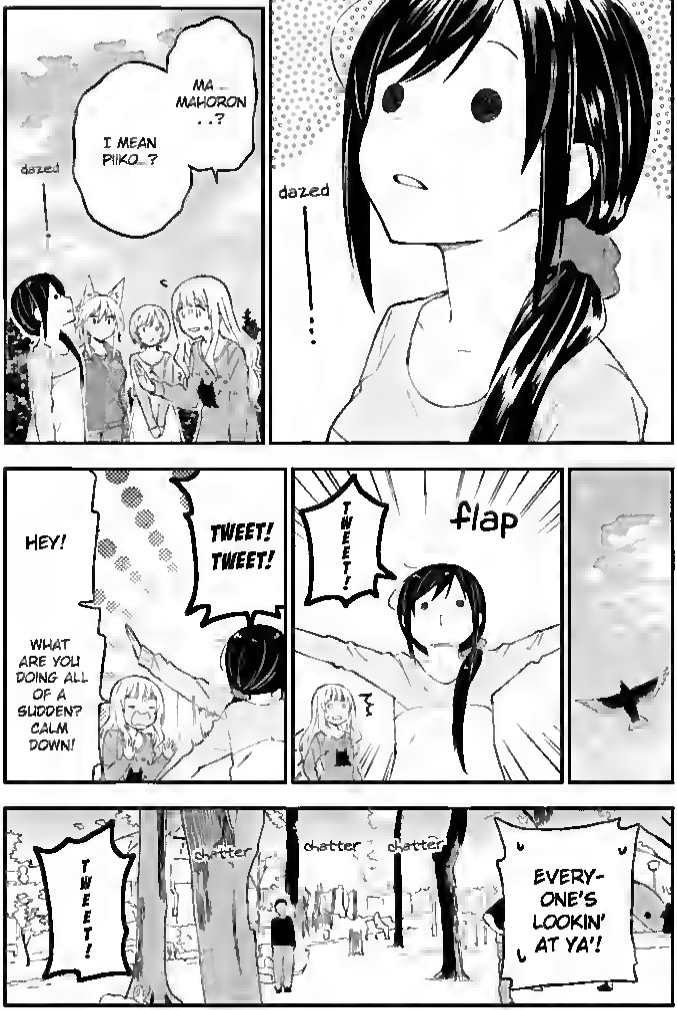

pat
pat
TH... THANK YOU, OKAY?


YOU HAVE TO ACCEPT PIIKO'S AFFECTIONS. OTHERWISE SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO MOVE ON TO THE AFTERLIFE!
YOU CAN'T, EMI-CHAN!
WHAT ...

UWAH ?!
PIOP

hehe

MAYBE PIIKO HAS SOME OTHER LINGERING REGRETS...
click
click
Mahoro's smartphone
WHAT SHOULD I DO, NEE-SAN?
THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO BE TAKING PICTURES, NEE-SAN!
PIIKO ISN'T PASSING ON TO THE AFTERLIFE ONE SINGLE BIT!
WOW, IS THAT ANOTHER WAY BIRDS SHOW THEIR LOVE?
LET'S ALL GO TO PIIKO'S GRAVE!
I REMEMBER NOW! WE HAVE TO RETURN TO THE PLACE WHERE THIS ALL STARTED!
HUH-HUH
THIS IS WHERE I BURIED PIIKO..
YEAH..
SO THIS IS PIIKO'S..

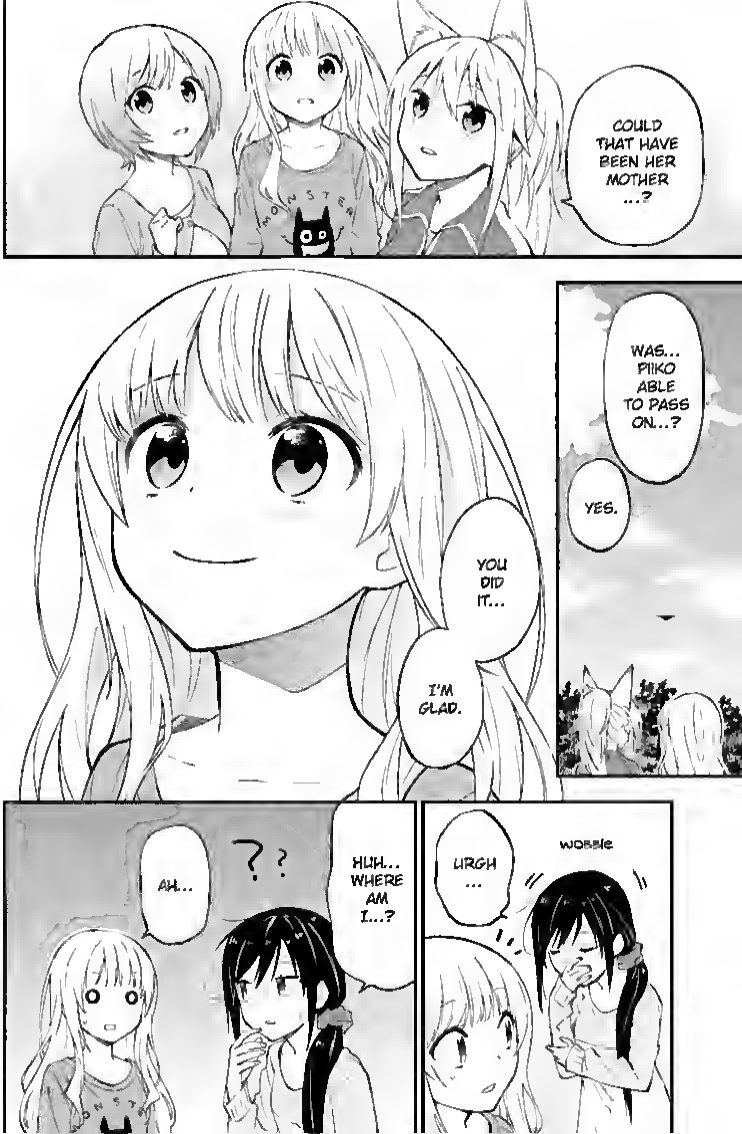

MA... MAHORON..?
I MEAN PIIKO..?
dazed
dazed
HEY!
TWEET! TWEET!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING ALL OF A SUDDEN? CALM DOWN!
TWEET!
flap
TWEET!
chatter
chatter
chatter
EVERY-ONE'S LOOKIN' AT YA'!

PIIKO...
COULD IT BE THAT...
Tweet!

Tweet!

YOU WANTED TO FLY?

YEP!
SO THAT'S WHAT IT WAS.
tap
HERE.
IF IT'S YOU, THEN FLYING WILL BE A PIECE OF CAKE
DON'T WORRY!
FLAP!
AHH...
SHHHH...


COULD THAT HAVE BEEN HER MOTHER ...?
WAS... PIIKO ABLE TO PASS ON...?
YES.
YOU DID IT...
I'M GLAD.
HUH... WHERE AM I...?
AH...
URGH ...
WOBBLE

SORRY... I'M REALLY SORRY, MAHORON.
? ? ?
EH?
DID SOME-THING HAPPEN?
lift
WHAT ...
flap flap
WHAT IS THIS ?!
HUH ?!
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT PHOTO ?!

あやかしこ
ayakashiko

祝巻頭カラー！ コミックス①～②巻好評発売中！ あやかしのいる日常つまってます。

第22話

あやかしこ

ayakashiko

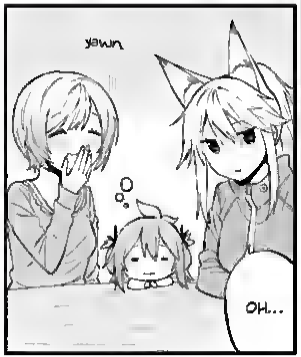
ヒジキ

VOLUMES 1-2 NOW ON SALE!

A Cat, a Kotatsu, and Mikan.

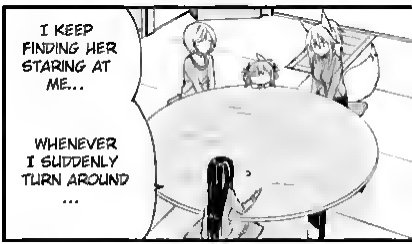
あやかしこ
ayakashiko

stare
?...
stare
?...
stare
?...

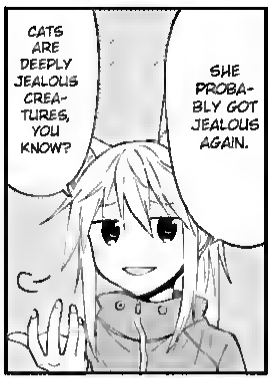

yawn
OH...

NENE IS ACTING WEIRD.

HA HA
I WONDER IF SHE'S HAVING TROUBLE TELLING ME SOMETHING ...


I KEEP FINDING HER STARING AT ME...
WHENEVER I SUDDENLY TURN AROUND ...

I SEE...


CATS ARE DEEPLY JEALOUS CREATURES, YOU KNOW?
SHE PROBABLY GOT JEALOUS AGAIN.

IS IT REALLY OKAY?
I GUESS THAT'S OKAY THEN.

IT COULD BE THAT SHE'S ACTING THIS WAY BECAUSE IT'S MATING SEASON.
WHAT ?!
HMM...
MA . MATING SEASON ...
THERE'S NO WAY!
GLARE...
YEAH.. THAT WAS JUST A JOKE.
BUT CATS USUALLY ENTER THEIR MATING PERIOD WHEN THE WEATHER IS WARMER..

NENE'S BEEN SAYING IT'S REALLY COLD.
YOU KNOW, RECENTLY,
COLD?
YUP
DOES ANYTHING CHANGE WHEN I'M NOT HERE?
MM... NOT REALLY ...
AND THEN WHEN KII ASKS HER IF SHE'S HIBERNATING ...
OH YEAH ...
MAYBE I SHOULD.
IS WHAT SHE SAYS ...
Nene's a sleepyhead

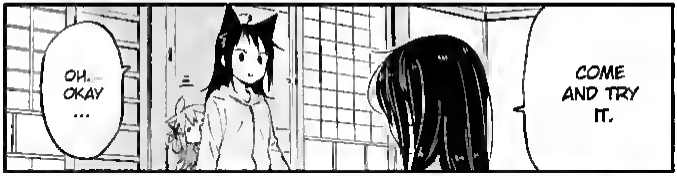
Zzz
WHAT IF SHE OVER-SLEEPS
AND STARTS HIBER-NATING?!
GASP
tap tap tap tap tap
OH NO!
NE-NE!
I THINK IT'S A GOOD TIME TO BRING IT OUT.
COLD.. IT HAS BEEN GETTING COOLER LATELY..
.....
WE DON'T SEEM TO HAVE ANY CLUES.
HUH?
OKAY! EVERYONE GIVE ME HAND!

WOAH~!
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE KOTATSU?
THIS IS PERFECT!
sluggish...
AH~ SO WARM ...
I DON'T WANT TO MOVE ONE STEP AWAY FROM UNDER HERE...
I KNEW IT WOULD BE LIKE THIS,
AND THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T WANT TO TAKE IT OUT THIS EARLY ...
BUT WITH THIS, I'M SURE NENE WILL BE HAPPY TOO!

GOOD MORNING, NENE
A futon?!
WHAT'S THAT?

UWAH.

IT BEEN COLD LATELY, RIGHT?
I TOOK OUT THE KOTATSU.

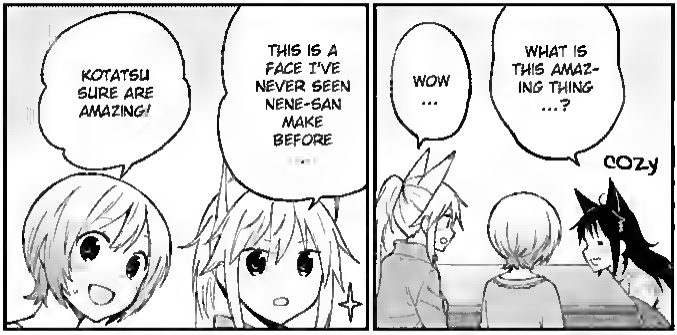

OH. OKAY ...
COME AND TRY IT.

I'LL GIVE IT A TRY
WHOOSH

THEY SAY CATS REALLY LOVE THEM.
REALLY?
THIS IS MY FIRST TIME SEEING ONE OF THESE.

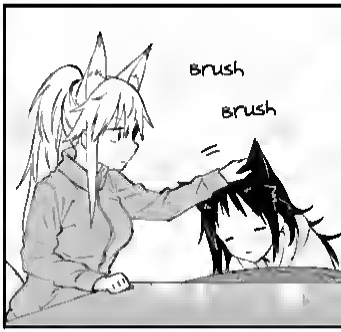
tingle
snuggle
DROOP
NENE ?!
WHAT'S WRONG ?!
UH...

droop
SO WARM... THIS IS HEAVEN ...


KOTATSU SURE ARE AMAZING!
THIS IS A FACE I'VE NEVER SEEN NENE-SAN MAKE BEFORE
WOW ...
WHAT IS THIS AMAZING THING ...?
cozy

reach
smack

purr
purr
purr
mm...


brush
brush

me... me too!
slowly...

hahaha! check it out!
oh my...you can pet her?!

Rage!
Don't pet me!!
HEY !!
AH

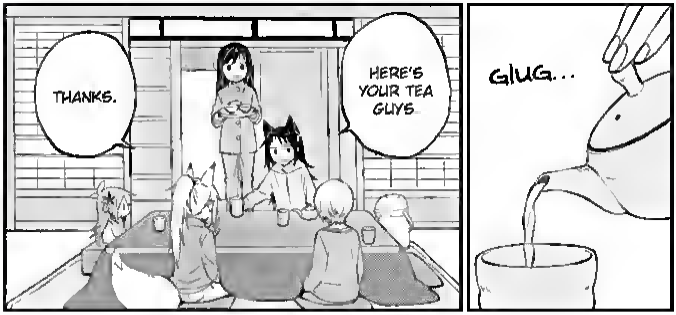
HUH?!

GIOOM
?
HUH? MAHORO?
What happened?
GEEZ... I CAN'T LET MY GUARD DOWN AROUND YOU!
hehe
UMM... NOT REALLY
Mahoro
IS THIS GOING TO INCREASE OUR ENERGY BILL?
SERIOUSLY, WHAT HAP-PENED..?
Nene
WHAT! IS THAT TRUE?!
AND SAVING MONEY IS JUST ONE OF HER HOBBIES.
SHE'S ACTUALLY THE DAUGHTER OF A RICH FAMILY.
THERE'S STILL SOMETHING YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT MAHORO-SAN.
OH...
?
Don't say that.
THAT'S WHY YOU DON'T HAVE TO HOLD BACK, OKAY?
hehehe

HUH?
steam
WELL, SINCE WE'RE ALL HERE, LET'S HAVE BREAK-FAST.
YAY!
stare
IF THAT'S TRUE, THEN WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER TO SIT UNDER THE KO-TATSU?!
NENE... WEREN'T YOU COMPLAINING ABOUT HOW COLD IT WAS?
stare
SH... SHE'S STARING AT ME AGAIN?!
I'M JUST GOING TO HAVE TO ASK HER DIRECTLY!
I DON'T GET IT...

EH...
WHAT'S WRONG? WHY DO YOU KEEP STARING AT ME?
NENE!
Grab
EH?
YOU CAN TELL ME ANYTHING.
WE'RE FAMILY, AFTER ALL...
I TOLD YOU, IT'S NOTHING...
I...

BY THE WAY... HAS THE WATER FINISHED BOILING?
HUH?
YEAH ...
I'LL BRING IT OUT THEN.
.....?
thud
thud


GLUG...
HERE'S YOUR TEA GUYS.
THANKS.

WHAT..

I SOMEHOW REMEMBERED IT BY WATCHING YOU.
NENE... WHEN DID YOU LEARN HOW TO MAKE TEA?
HMM?
Puu
NENE-SAN IS MORE USEFUL THAN I EXPECTED.
AND THIS TEA IS SIMPLY DELICIOUS.
COMPARED TO NENE-SAN'S, YOURS IS EITHER TOO WEAK OR TOO STRONG, DEPENDING ON THE DAY...
HE HE HE
I'M NOT COMPLI-MENTING YOU.

THANKS FOR THE FOOD~
WELL, LET'S EAT.

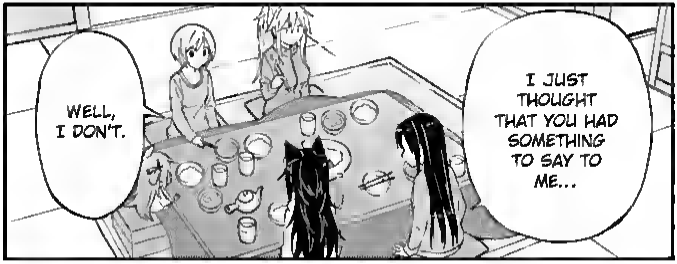
OH...
HERE, MAHORO.

thunk

... SORRY ABOUT BEFORE.

THANK YOU.
.....

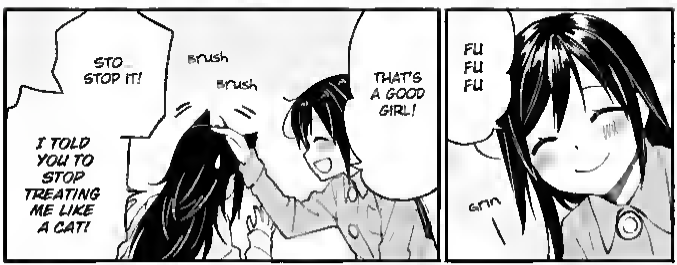
I'M NOT ANGRY AT YOU ...
IT'S NOT ABOUT THAT...
I WON'T STARE AT YOU ANY-MORE...


WELL, I DON'T.
I JUST THOUGHT THAT YOU HAD SOMETHING TO SAY TO ME...

WHAT...?
I WAS JUST WATCHING YOU DO THE HOUSE-WORK.

...IF I WATCH AND LEARN FROM YOU,
JUST LIKE HOW I LEARNED TO MAKE TEA,
THEN I CAN HELP OUT AROUND THE HOUSE. EVEN IF IT'S JUST A LITTLE BIT.
AND THEN... YOU MIGHT STOP TREATING ME LIKE AN AVERAGE PET.
NENE ...
IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WERE THINKING, THEN WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?
THAT'S BECAUSE NENE-SAN IS SHY.
SHUT UP!

THANK YOU, NENE.
IT WAS NOTHING... I STILL DON'T KNOW HOW TO HELP WITH THE BIGGER STUFF THOUGH.


STO... STOP IT!
brush
brush
I TOLD YOU TO STOP TREATING ME LIKE A CAT!
THAT'S A GOOD GIRL!
FU FU FU
grin

YOU SHOULD LEARN HOW TO HELP TOO
haha
THAT'S A GOOD GIRL, NENE-SAN.

あやかしこ
ayakashiko

第23話

OH?
tap
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HMM
I FOUND THIS PHOTO ALBUM, AND I THOUGHT I COULD ORGANIZE IT A LITTLE BIT.
OH,
WE STILL HAD SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
IT WAS HIDDEN UNDER THE KOTATSU, SO THAT MAY BE WHY WE NEVER NOTICED IT.

WOAH
SQUEEZE!
KII WANTS TO SEE!
PHOTOS ...?
WOW~ IT'S FULL OF TINY MAHORO!
YUP~
THAT REMINDS ME,
I THINK GRANDMOTHER PURPOSELY BOUGHT A DIGITAL CAMERA AND PRINTER JUST TO TAKE PICTURES OF ME
SO NOSTAL-GIC~
Maho-chan look over here~
YOUR GRAND-MOTHER WAS SURPRISINGLY ACTIVE...
.....
HOW WONDER-FUL...

LOOKING AT PHOTOS LETS YOU REMEMBER THINGS THAT HAPPENED IN THE PAST, DOESN'T IT?
WHY DO YOU SAY THAT?
EH?
KII WANTS TO BE IN A PHOTO TOO!
THAT'S TRUE. . BUT YOU KNOW THAT CAMERAS CAN'T TAKE PHOTOS OF AYAKASHI, RIGHT?
YEAH . . .
YOU KNOW
KII DOESN'T REMEMBER THINGS FROM A LONG, LONG TIME AGO.
SO SOME-DAY . .
KII MIGHT EVEN FORGET THE FUN TIMES WE'RE HAVING RIGHT NOW,
AND THINKING ABOUT THAT
MAKES KII SAD.

BUT IF WE WERE TO TAKE A PICTURE OF YOU WITH AN ANALOG CAMERA . . .
YES. THE FRAMEWORK OF DIGITAL CAMERAS AND THE LIKE ARE TOO COMPLICATED, SO THEY WON'T WORK.
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN I CAN DO SPIRIT PHOTOGRAPHY.
SPIRIT PHOTOGRAPHY ?!
HAUNTED...
.....
THEN YOU GET WHAT'S CALLED A SPIRIT PHOTO.
-Hmm.
I HAVE AN IDEA!
STAND
RIGHT?
annoyed
THOSE AREN'T CUTE SO NO!

English...?
HERE!
SKETCH DIARY
WHAT'S THIS?
It's blank...
IT'S A PICTURE DIARY...
MY SCHOOL GAVE IT TO ME, BUT I NEVER USED IT.
A PICTURE DIARY...
IT'S A BOOK WHERE YOU WRITE AND DRAW ABOUT THINGS THAT HAPPENED TO YOU DURING THE DAY THAT YOU THOUGHT WERE INTERESTING
IF YOU DO THAT, THEN THEY WILL BE RECORDED IN THAT BOOK FOREVER.
AND I ALSO THINK THAT IF YOU DO IT YOURSELF, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO REMEMBER THE MOMENT FOR LONGER.
.....
OH...

THANK YOU, MAHORO!
YOU'RE WELCOME.

OKAY!

KII WANTS TO DO IT NOW!
CRAYON PLEASE!
YEP.

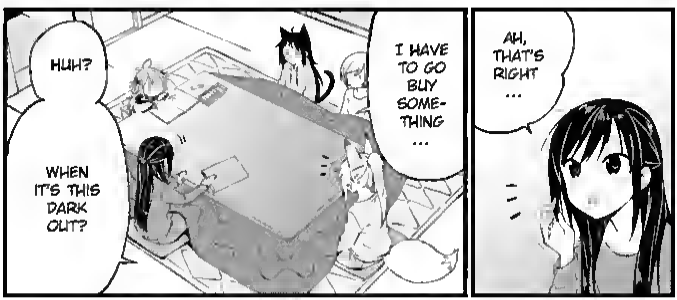
SHING!
DON'T WRITE ABOUT THINGS THAT DON'T MATTER..
THE HAM-BURGERS WE HAD FOR LUNCH WERE DELICIOUS.
scribble
scribble
HMM ...
TODAY, KII TOOK AN AFTERNOON NAP UNDER THE KOTATSU. IT FELT GOOD.

WOAH ~
LET'S HAVE A LOOK
DONE!
Uuu~

WOW !
GAIN
WHAT A NICE STYLE
THE DRAWING IS ACTUALLY REALLY GOOD
The handwriting is a mess though.

YOU CAN'T WRITE ABOUT TOMORROW WHEN YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN IN THE FUTURE, RIGHT KII?
OH YEAH...
EH?!
NEXT!
flip

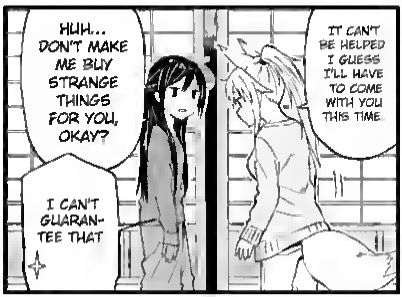
YEAH.
IT LOOKS LIKE SHE'S HAVING FUN, SO WHY NOT?
YOU'RE GONNA SCREW UP THE CHRONO-LOGICAL ORDER OF THINGS...
THEN I'LL JUST WRITE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED A LONG TIME AGO!


HUH?
WHEN IT'S THIS DARK OUT?
I HAVE TO GO BUY SOME-THING ...
AH, THAT'S RIGHT ...

WELL, IF YOU SAY SO...
IT'LL BE TROUBLE IF WE DON'T HAVE ANY, RIGHT?
WE RAN OUT OF HAND SOAP.

WALKING AROUND OUTSIDE AT THIS TIME IS FORBIDDEN
YOUR SPIRITUAL ABILITY IS GOING TO ATTRACT UNWANTED ATTENTION FROM THE SUPER-NATURAL
REALLY?
BUT IT'S NEVER BOTHERED ME BEFORE...
CAN YOU NOT TELL THOSE KINDS OF SCARY STORIES...?
And I won't let them get me that easily...
toss...
I WOULDN'T BE SO SURE ABOUT THAT. YOU'D BE AN EASY MEAL FOR THE CHIMIMOURYOU* OUT THERE

Chimimouryou- Evil spirits of rivers and mountains


HUH... DON'T MAKE ME BUY STRANGE THINGS FOR YOU, OKAY?
I CAN'T GUARAN-TEE THAT
IT CAN'T BE HELPED I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO COME WITH YOU THIS TIME

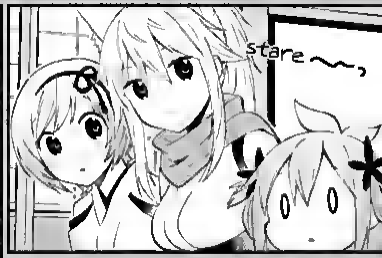
SHUT!
YES, THANK YOU VERY MUCH~
IS THIS THE LAST OF YOUR PACK-AGES?
EVERY-ONE'S GONE.
depressed...
IT'S LONELY...
KII COULDN'T MAKE THIS HOUSE HAPPY...
IT'S BECAUSE KII IS A USELESS ZASHIKI-WARASHI.

OH?
THUD
WITHOUT KNOWING IT, WE SEEM TO HAVE COME ACROSS A STRANGE HOUSE. .
DON'T YOU GET THE FEELING THAT WE WERE SOMEHOW DRAWN TO IT?
I HAVE A GOOD FEELING ABOUT THIS HOUSE HOW ABOUT YOU?
LOOKS LIKE IT WOULD BE EASY FOR AYAKASHI TO LIVE IN
HUH?
A ZASHIKI-WARASHI .?

OKAY
DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK ME FOR ANYTHING YOU NEED, OKAY?

MAHO-CHAN

SO SMALL.
HUH?


stare~~~

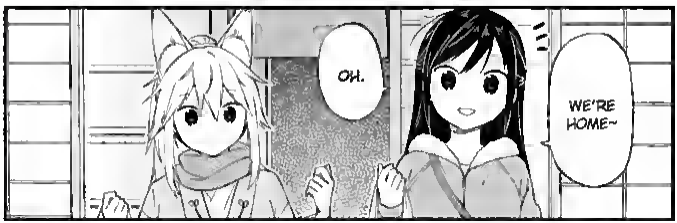
shock

AYAKA-SHI?
EH?
COULD YOU BE. .
WHO ARE YOU GUYS .?
THERE'S NO WAY.. YOU CAN SEE US..?
EH .
YOU'RE NOT A STUFFED TOY...
LIFT

WHAT
WHAT
?!
SHE JUST TOUCHED HER..

KII IS A USELESS ZASHIKI-WARASHI. .
BUT KII CAN'T DO ANY-THING...
KII THOUGHT MAHORO WOULD BE HAPPY
IF KII TRIED HER BEST...
KII'S SMILE IS MY HAPPINESS.

snore...


OH.
WE'RE HOME~

LET'S SEE HERE~
flip
flip
SKETCH
LOOKS LIKE IT.
DID KII FALL ASLEEP?
giggle
Zzz

IT'S TRUE!
THERE'S SOMETHING ON EVERY PAGE.
All the space is used.
SKETCH
flip flip
OH?
FU FU ~
THERE MUST'VE BEEN A LOT OF FUN TIMES.
sleepy
WOW~ KI! WILL DEFINITELY BE HAPPY WHEN SHE WAKES UP!
WE'RE LUCKY WE BOUGHT HER A NEW PICTURE DIARY.

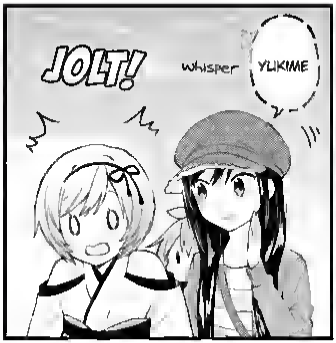
A Good Child's
Picture Diary
name

あやかしこ
ayakashiko

第24话

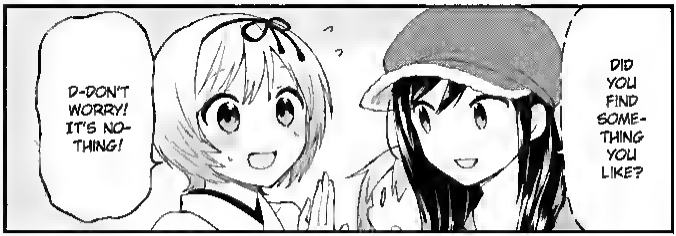
Hmm.
HEHE.
HEY! DON'T JUST PUT IN WHATEVER YOU WANT.
whisper
ねぎ
SNEAK...
MAGADAMIA
AH!

Yay!
FINE ...
IF YOU INSIST ...
UGH ...
BUY IT!
sparkle
sparkle
sparkle
sparkle
sparkle
sparkle
stare
ICE


JOLT!
whisper
YUKIME

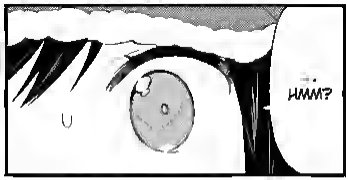
stare
stare
stare

?


D-DON'T WORRY! IT'S NO-THING!
DID YOU FIND SOME-THING YOU LIKE?

COULD THIS BE THE THING YOU WANTED?
SAL
¥8,800 ⇨¥
半額

I CAN BUY YOU SOME-THING ONCE IN A WHILE ...
YOU CAN TELL ME, YOU KNOW


HMM?

ICE
A SHAVED ICE MACHINE ...?
UH...
WE'RE GETTING DEEPER INTO THE AUTUMN SEASON AND YOU WANT TO HAVE SHAVED ICE RIGHT NOW?
HEHE...
FOR SOME REASON, THAT SOUNDS JUST LIKE YOU.
EHEHE
IS THAT SO?
fidget
fidget
THE TRUTH IS, I'VE ALWAYS WANTED ONE..

WOW.
HERE ARE SOME SYRUPS I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO MAKE TO ACCOMPANY THE SHAVED ICE.
THEY CAN BE MADE EASILY WITH JUST CANNED FRUIT

*Shiratama- rice flour dumpling

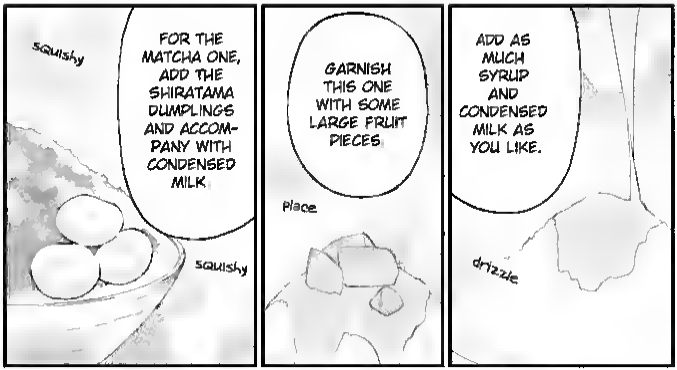
exerted
OKAY!
doki
doki
YUKIME! HURRY UP AND MAKE SOME!
HUH. .?
click
THEN, YOU PRESS THE SWITCH...
HUH ...?
drop
UMM... SO FIRST, YOU PUT THE ICE IN HERE...
drop
drop
HUH?
LET ME DO IT FOR YOU, OKAY?
D-DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, YUKIME
It's not even plugged in.
Oh you're right.
.....
HUH ...?
click
click

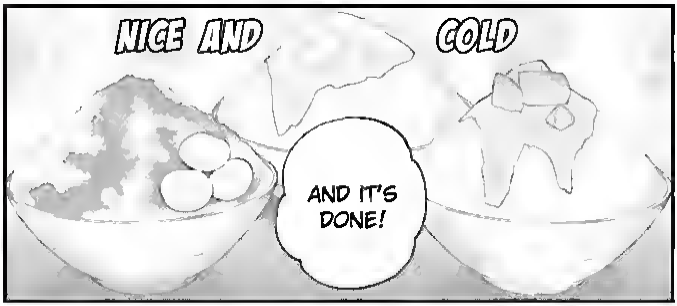
WOW ~
shk shk shk

shk
shk
shk
shk

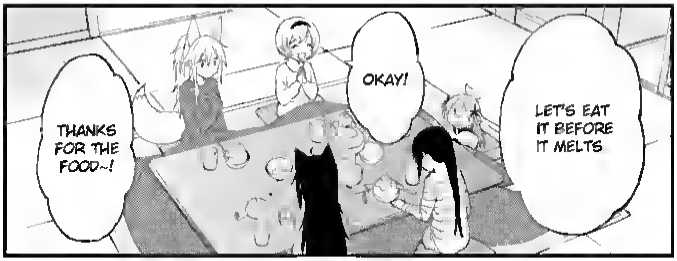
FLUFFY

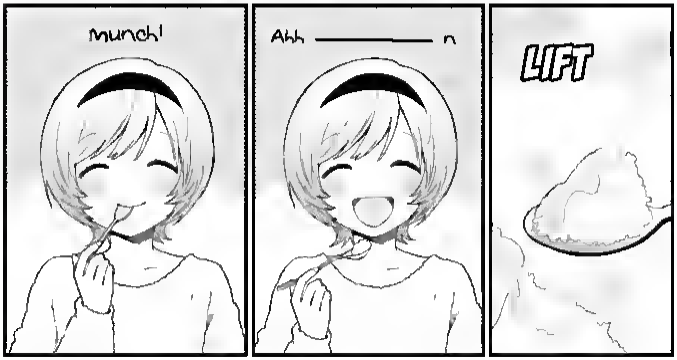
I CAN'T BELIEVE THEY WERE SELLING IT FOR HALF-PRICE!
YOU ONLY BOUGHT IT BECAUSE YOU SAW IT WAS HALF-PRICE
THAT'S BECAUSE ITS ORIGI-NAL PRICE WAS REALLY HIGH!
IT CAN REALLY CHURN OUT A LOT DESPITE BEING ONLY FOR DOMESTIC USE


squishy
FOR THE MATCHA ONE, ADD THE SHIRATAMA DUMPLINGS AND ACCOMPANY WITH CONDENSED MILK.
squishy
GARNISH THIS ONE WITH SOME LARGE FRUIT PIECES.
place
ADD AS MUCH SYRUP AND CONDENSED MILK AS YOU LIKE.
drizzle


NICE AND
COLD
AND IT'S DONE!

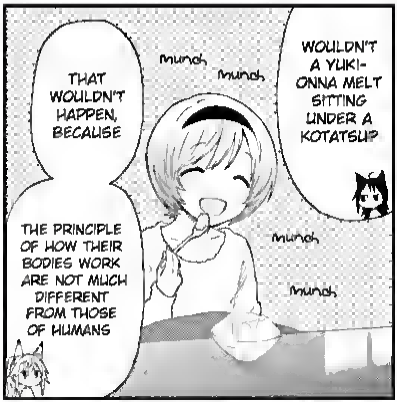
WOAH~!
THEY TURNED OUT REALLY WELL, DON'T YOU THINK?


THANKS FOR THE FOOD~!
OKAY!
LET'S EAT IT BEFORE IT MELTS


Munch!
Ahh ——— n
LIFT

Bliss

shine
HOW IS IT?
SUPER DELICIOUS!
REALLY? I'M GLAD YOU LIKE IT!
smile
smile
smile
munch
munch
BECAUSE THERE'S A LOT MORE WHERE THAT CAME FROM.
YAY!
ICE


munch
munch
munch
munch
WOULDN'T A YUKI-ONNA MELT SITTING UNDER A KOTATSU?
THAT WOULDN'T HAPPEN, BECAUSE
THE PRINCIPLE OF HOW THEIR BODIES WORK ARE NOT MUCH DIFFERENT FROM THOSE OF HUMANS

YUKIME REALLY LOVES STUFF LIKE SHAVED ICE AND ICE-CREAM, DOESN'T SHE?
WELL SHE IS A YUKI-ONNA.

BUT THEN AGAIN, IS IT WRONG TO SAY THERE ARE AYAKASHI THAT ARE ABLE TO ADAPT TO THE LIFESTYLES AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF HUMANS?
clink
HMM..?
I don't really understand.

4TH BOWL
PEACH AND MIKAN HALF-AND-HALF ~!
3RD BOWL
SHIRA-TAMA AND CON-DENSED MILK ~!
2ND BOWL
MATCHA AND MIKAN ~!

munch
munch
munch
munch
munch
munch

.....
4th bowl
munch
munch
munch
munch
munch
munch

FREEZE
HMM?
shiver
Y-YUKIME...
YOU'RE GOING TO GET A STOMACH ACHE IF YOU KEEP EATING LIKE THAT
AYAKASHI CAN GET STOMACH ACHES?

WHAT!
IT CAN'T BE!
DID IT GET A LITTLE COLD IN HERE?
shiver shiver
HUH? ISN'T IT BECAUSE WE'RE EATING SHAVED ICE?
It does feel cooler all of sudden.
munch, munch
NO, I THINK IT'S MORE THAN JUST THAT...
.....?
EH?
munch, munch
Y-YUKIME... STOP EATING...
I SAID STOP !!
W-WHAT'S WRONG, KUUKO-CHAN?
GRAB!

GRAB!
DON'T ASK QUES-TIONS! JUST STOP EATING!
LEAN IN
THUMP!
KYA!
AH...

AH...
BLUSH
silence...
FREEZE!

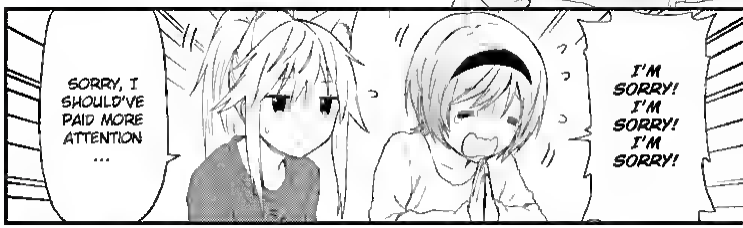
SHOCK!
MA-HORO-SAN!
MA-HORO-CHAN!
UWOAH ?!
.....
chill...
W-WHAT ...?
? ?
phew
THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE OKAY!
I'M OKAY ...?
Did something happen?

WHAT?
THAT'S .. PROBABLY MY FAULT..
UMM ..
IT'S LIKE THE INSIDE OF THE FREEZER.
MORE IMPORTANTLY... IT REALLY DID GET A LOT COOLER IN HERE.
SHIVER
YES ..
OH, I SEE! IT'S THAT THING, ISN'T IT?
WHENEVER YOU GET EXCITED, THE WATER AROUND YOU HAS A HABIT OF FREEZING, RIGHT?
Even this bowl of shaved ice is completely frozen.
LIFT

GRIP
GRIP
IT'S...
JUST AS I THOUGHT ...
EVEN THE PIPES ARE FROZEN
EH?!
EEK!

EEK!!
THE JUICE AND CONDIMENTS IN HERE ARE FROZEN TOO?!
EH?!

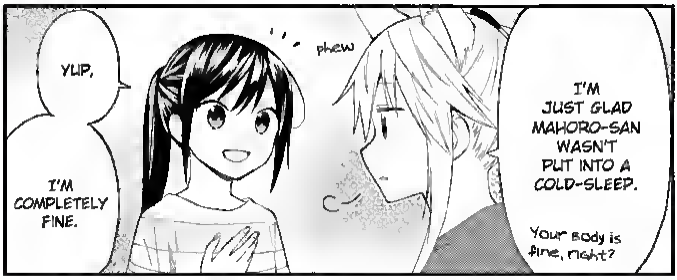
TO THINK THAT YOU WERE EVEN ABLE TO FREEZE THINGS THIS FAR AWAY...

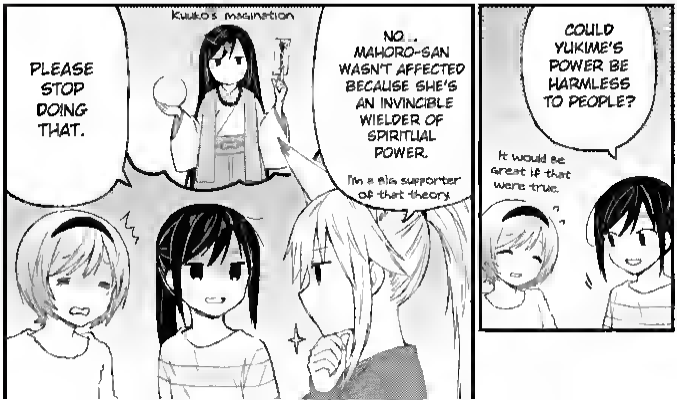

I'M SORRY! I'M SORRY! I'M SORRY!
SORRY, I SHOULD'VE PAID MORE ATTENTION...

I WONDER HOW FAR IT REACHES...
PLEASE DON'T TELL ME IT CAN GO BEYOND THIS HOUSE.
THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE.

IT'S LIKELY THAT YUKIME-SAN'S SPIRITUAL POWER CORRESPONDS TO THE AMOUNT OF COLD FOOD SHE HAS EATEN.
IS THAT THE CASE?
I didn't realize...

THANK YOU SO MUCH~
KULIKO-CHAN...
stick
TO PREVENT THE NEIGH-BORHOOD FROM BEING AFFECTED, I SET UP A BARRIER AROUND THE HOUSE
I ANTICIPATED THIS SORT OF THING HAPPENING.
Awe-some


YUP,
I'M COMPLETELY FINE.
phew
I'M JUST GLAD MAHORO-SAN WASN'T PUT INTO A COLD-SLEEP.
Your body is fine, right?


PLEASE STOP DOING THAT.
Kuriko's imagination
NO.. MAHORO-SAN WASN'T AFFECTED BECAUSE SHE'S AN INVINCIBLE WIELDER OF SPIRITUAL POWER.
I'm a big supporter of that theory
COULD YUKIME'S POWER BE HARMLESS TO PEOPLE?
It would be great if that were true.

UGH... SORRY...
SORRY, MAHORO-CHAN...
sniffle
THIS TROUBLE-SOME POWER...
I DON'T WANT IT ANYMORE ...
sniffle
sniffle
YUKIME ...
THAT'S OKAY DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT TOO MUCH.
AND BESIDES, FROZEN THINGS ALWAYS MELT AND RETURN TO NORMAL.
ALSO...

YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS A STRANGE ABILITY, OKAY?
fufu

clench
MAHORO-CHAN ...

WELL, IF YOU SAY SO...
I can hide it...
SEAL IT AWAY?
THEN CAN WE AT LEAST SEAL IT AWAY?!

tears
tears
tears
ICE

NO... THAT'S WASTEFUL. WE'RE GOING TO KEEP USING IT!
HUH ?!

UH...
Can't do it

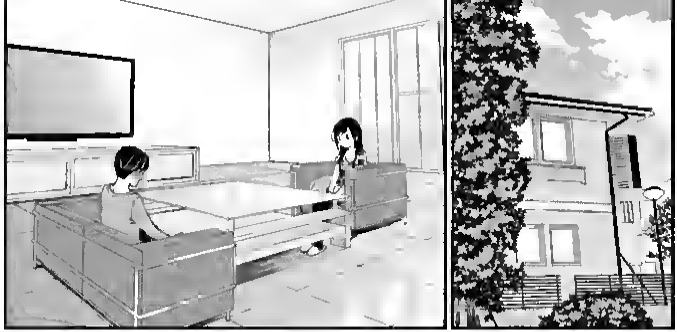
SO THAT MEANS YOU'RE ONLY ALLOWED ONE BOWL A DAY.
DEAL?

B-BUT ...
DON'T WORRY. WE'LL BE CAREFUL FROM NOW ON

Silen
ce...
ICE
DEAL!
THANK YOU, MAHORO-CHAN.
WELL THEN, KII WILL JUST HAVE TO EAT A LOT MORE IN YOUR PLACE!
HEY.
Ha ha ha ha
ah

By the way, let me tell you that I'm a tremendously helpful Ayakashi, and anyone who argues against my claim will have to answer to me!!
Who are you talking to?

第25話



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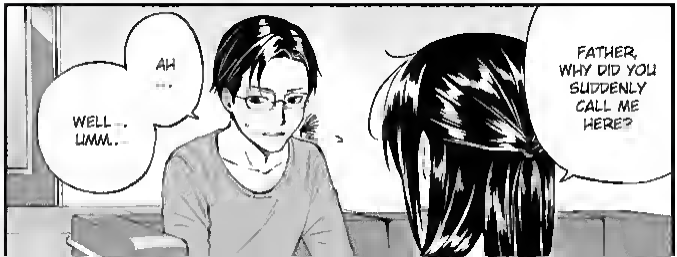
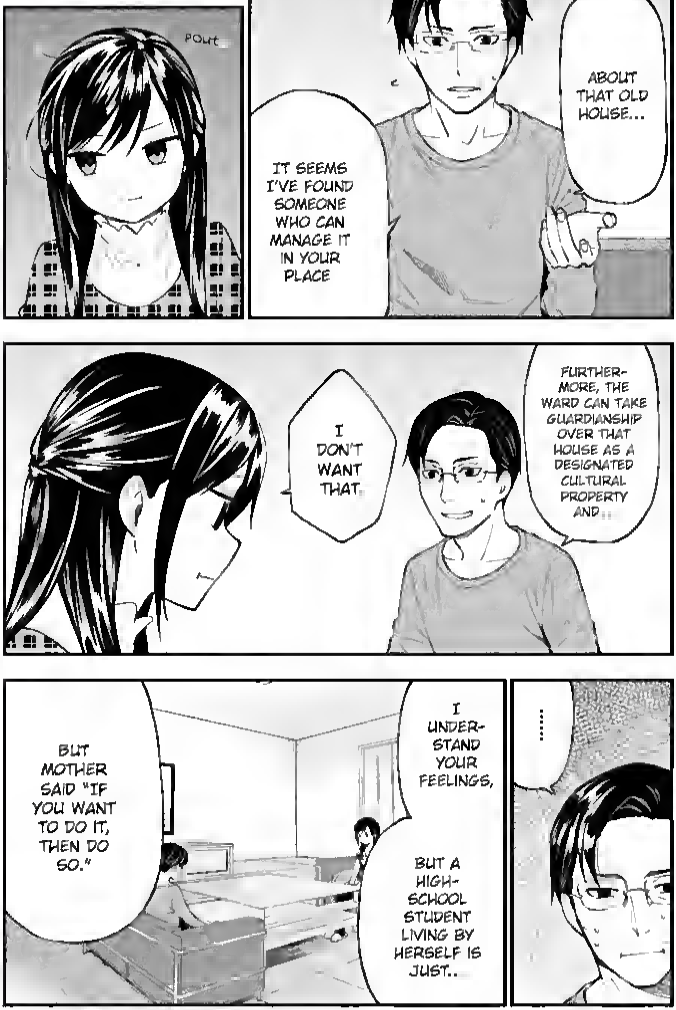
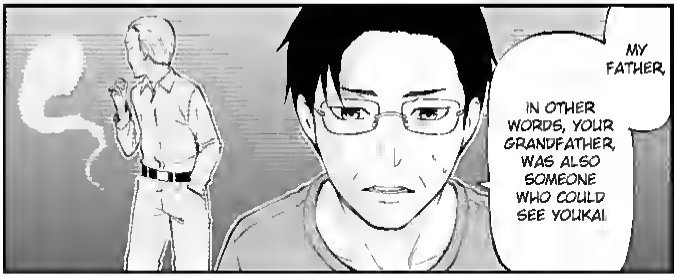

AH...
WELL... UMM..
FATHER, WHY DID YOU SUDDENLY CALL ME HERE?

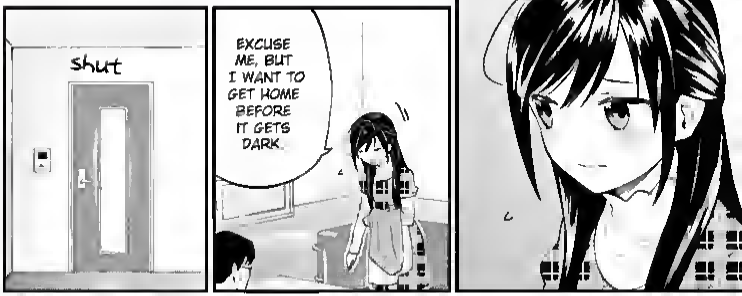

POUT
ABOUT THAT OLD HOUSE...
IT SEEMS I'VE FOUND SOMEONE WHO CAN MANAGE IT IN YOUR PLACE
FURTHER-MORE, THE WARD CAN TAKE GUARDIANSHIP OVER THAT HOUSE AS A DESIGNATED CULTURAL PROPERTY AND...
I DON'T WANT THAT.
.....
I UNDER-STAND YOUR FEELINGS,
BUT A HIGH-SCHOOL STUDENT LIVING BY HERSELF IS JUST..
BUT MOTHER SAID "IF YOU WANT TO DO IT, THEN DO SO."

IF IT'S ABOUT MONEY, I'LL RETURN ALL OF IT IN THE FUTURE..
I COULD EVEN GET A PART-TIME JOB...
I WON'T ALLOW THAT!
IT'S NOT ABOUT THE MONEY...
HOW DO I SAY THIS...
.....

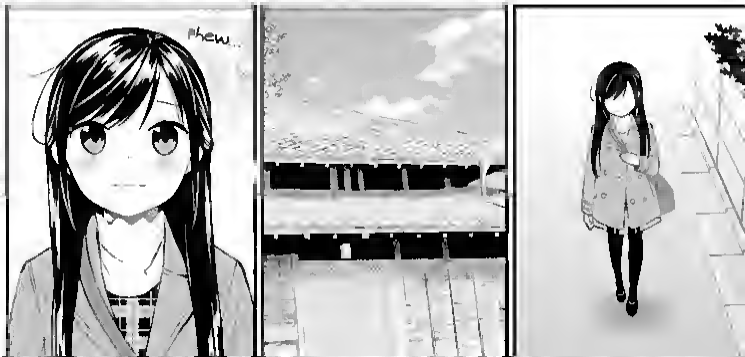


BUT UNEXPECTEDLY, HE WENT TOO FAR DEEP INTO "THAT WORLD" AND, IN THE END...

FATHER, YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT ME, AND I UNDERSTAND THAT...
THUMP!
AS I THOUGHT, PEOPLE AND YOUKAI BELONG IN THEIR OWN RESPECTIVE WORLDS...
BUT THOSE AYAKASHI ARE MY FAMILY...
THEY'RE NOT THE TERRIFYING CREATURES THAT YOU THINK THEY ARE
GRAND-MOTHER AND GRANDFATHER PASSED AWAY SUDDENLY, BUT THAT WASN'T THE FAULT OF THE AYAKASHI.
YOU CAN'T EVEN TALK TO THEM,
AND I KNEW YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE WHAT I SAID ANY-WAY..
MAHO-RO


shut
EXCUSE ME, BUT I WANT TO GET HOME BEFORE IT GETS DARK.

COME HOME SOON, DEAR...
.....
sigh
I OVERDID IT AGAIN...
ARGH...


Phew...

JUMP!
clatter
I'M HOME ~
TRICK OR TREAT !!
AH...?
EH...?
.....

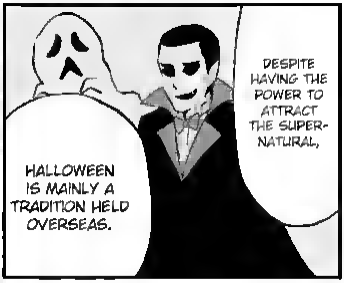
OH, I GET IT!
KUUKO SAID YOU GET CANDY TODAY IF YOU SAY "TRICK-OR-TREAT."
TODAY IS HALLOWEEN!
October 31st!
SORRY, I WAS DISTRACTED
WHAT WAS THAT AGAIN?
EH.. AH...?
?
JUST ONE MOMENT... LET'S SEE HERE..
NFUFU~
roll roll
KII GOT A CANDY!
A CANDY...
IS THAT IT...?
stare
THAT'S ALL WE HAD...

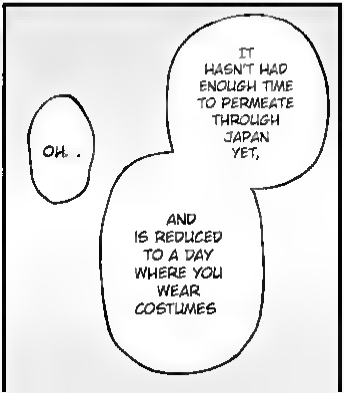
PUT SOME MORE EFFORT INTO IT!
GLARE!
MAHORO-SAN! YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND WHAT HALLOWEEN IS ALL ABOUT, DO YOU?
YEAH... I HONESTLY DON'T REALLY GET IT...
HALLOWEEN IS THE CELEBRATION OF THE AUTUMN HARVEST, AND AT THE SAME TIME, IT'S THE DAY THE GHOSTS OF THE DECEASED RETURN TO THIS REALM
IN TERMS OF JAPAN, IT'S THE EQUIVALENT OF OBON. IT'S A VERY IMPORTANT EVENT!
SO JUST GIVING OUT ONE PIECE OF CANDY AND ENDING IT THERE IS JUST...
How about some pumpkin pie or pumpkin pudding, or
OH...

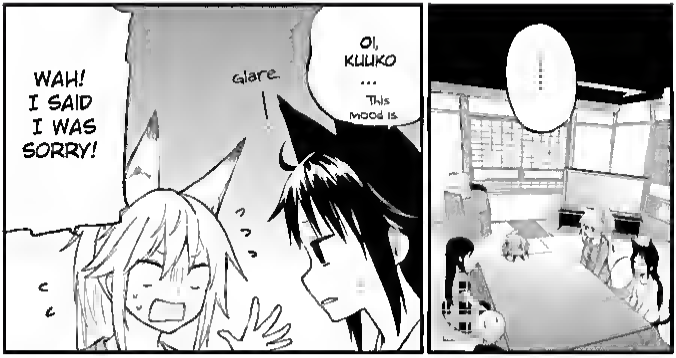
EH..?
SORRY, BUT THAT'S... IMPOSSIBLE.

...
UHH...
THEN DOES THAT MEAN WE CAN SEE GRAND-MOTHER AGAIN?!
SHINE!

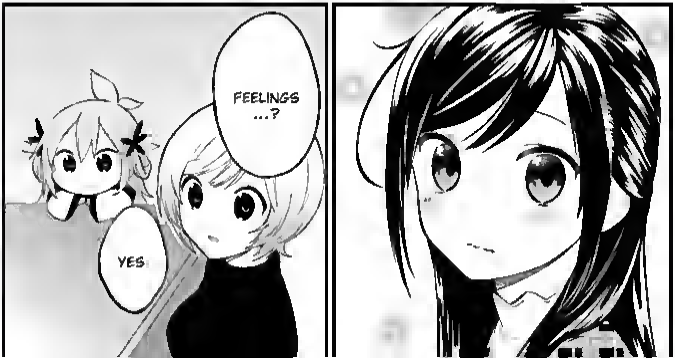
SO IT'S LIKE THAT... HOW UNFOR-TUNATE...


HALLOWEEN IS MAINLY A TRADITION HELD OVERSEAS.
DESPITE HAVING THE POWER TO ATTRACT THE SUPER-NATURAL,


OH.
IT HASN'T HAD ENOUGH TIME TO PERMEATE THROUGH JAPAN YET,
AND IS REDUCED TO A DAY WHERE YOU WEAR COSTUMES


WAH! I SAID I WAS SORRY!
glare
OI, KUUKO ...
This mood is
っっ
く
.....

THEN IT JUST MIGHT HAVE THE POWER TO ATTRACT THE SUPERNATURAL IN JAPAN!
IF WE CONNECT OUR FEELINGS WITH THE HISTORY AND TRADITION OF HALLOWEEN,
BUT!
っ


FEELINGS ...?
YES.

THE FEELINGS OF THOSE HEARTS STEADILY ACCUMULATING OVER TIME WILL,
IN TURN, CREATE A FESTIVAL THAT WILL HOLD GREAT SPIRITUAL POWER

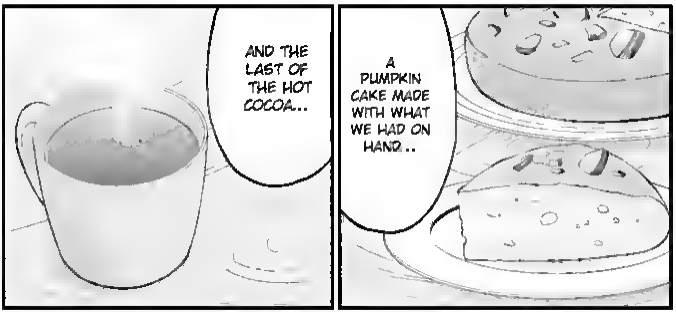
THE HEARTS OF PEOPLE...

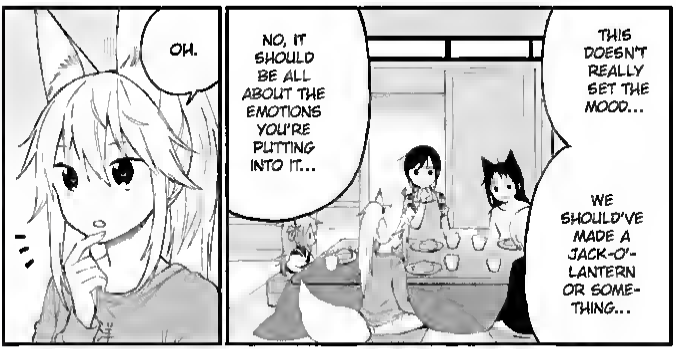
THE OVERSEAS' HALLOWEEN, AND JAPAN'S OBON,
ARE BOTH DAYS WHERE THE SPIRITS OF THE DECEASED RETURN TO OUR WORLD
THE HEARTS OF PEOPLE WHO STRONGLY BELIEVE THIS ARE THE GREATEST FORCE IN ELIMINATING THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE TWO

THAT'S CORRECT!
THEN HAVE A BIG PARTY?
IT MIGHT THEN BECOME A DAY WHERE REAL GHOSTS AND AYAKASHI CAN MINGLE WITH HUMANS IN COSTUME?
...SO IN SUMMARY, IF HALLOWEEN IS CONTINUALLY CELEBRATED IN JAPAN,

PEOPLE AND YOUKAI SHOULD BELONG IN THEIR OWN RESPECTIVE WORLDS.
DOESN'T THAT SOUND GREAT?
洋菓子
...YEAH,
SEEMS LIKE FUN!
THEN IN ORDER FOR THAT DAY TO HAPPEN,
LET'S HAVE A HALLOWEEN PARTY!
YAY~!

HMM...


AND THE LAST OF THE HOT COCOA...
A PUMPKIN CAKE MADE WITH WHAT WE HAD ON HAND...


OH.
NO, IT SHOULD BE ALL ABOUT THE EMOTIONS YOU'RE PUTTING INTO IT...
THIS DOESN'T REALLY SET THE MOOD...
WE SHOULD'VE MADE A JACK-O'-LANTERN OR SOMETHING...

BOING!
HUH?
wave
wave
THAT'S IT.
MAHORO-SAN
HMM..?
?
W-WHAT ARE THESE?!
Ears and a tail?!
DON'T WORRY, IT'S JUST AN ILLU-SION.
HMM~?
HERE, A MIRROR.

WOAH
FOR YOUR BAKENEKO* COSTUME
*Bakeneko: Cat with magical power.
TODAY, MAHORO-SAN IS A MEMBER OF THE AYAKASHI.
I'M A. . MEMBER OF THE AYAKASHI ...
WHILE I'M AT IT, I'LL CREATE SOME JACK-O'-LANTERN ILLUSIONS AS WELL
KUUKO-CHAN IS AMAZING!
WOW ~
SNIP

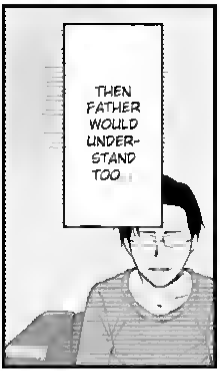
EH.
NOW I LOOK JUST LIKE CAT, RIGHT?!

I FEEL KIND OF... HAPPY.
Ehehe

YEAH... THEY SUIT YOU.
IS THAT SO...?

SOMEDAY IN THE FUTURE,
WHEN PEOPLE CAN FINALLY RECOGNIZE THE PLEASURE AND JOY STEMMING FROM
HUMANS AND AYAKASHI LIVING TOGETHER LIKE THIS,

OKAY EVERYONE, PUT YOUR HANDS TOGETHER.
OR, MAYBE NOT...


THEN FATHER WOULD UNDER-STAND TOO...

THANKS FOR THE FOOD!

あやかしこ
ayakashiko

Speial Thanks

担当編集 山本さん / デザイナーさん
ブロマガでもダイマしてくださったニコニコSSGのみなさま
友人たち / ここまで読んでくださった読者様方

ヒジキ

MFコミックス アライブシリーズ
あやかしこ　3

著者　ヒジキ

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